

# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Stonewall Demos Debate 'Is Gay Liberation Dead?'

by George Mendenhall

"If we change the laws but we have not changed the underlying way that people treat one another, we have not changed anything. If there is a priority for the 80's, it is to move more into liberation and freedom and less for the battle for legal rights. Too often we have rushed to the courts or into the legislature when we might have went next door and asked, 'Do you hate me? What do you feel? Why did you do this?' That personal confrontation is scarier for some of us but it is necessary."

The speaker was attorney Mary Dunlap, who was one of five panelists who addressed over 100 at Tuesday night's Stonewall Gay Democratic Club meeting. The forum, organized by Stonewall President Gerry Parker, also included Paul Hardman, Priscilla Alexander, Howard Wallace, Barbara Cameron, Pat Norman, and Arthur Evans. Tom Ammiano served as moderator. The subject: "Is Gay Liberation Dead?"

Norman agreed with Dunlap's analysis, adding that there is possibly an overabundance of Gay "leaders" in San Francisco. She queried,

"Where are the Indians?" All the panelists agreed that there was a need for more forums and meetings about what direction the community should be taking.

Dunlap, ignoring with others the scheduled topic "Is Gay Liberation Dead?" said, "We learned from ERA that you do not change anything as fundamental as the U.S. Constitution before you change attitudes." She called for Gay people to not be as concerned about their individual rights as the freedom of all: "If we never consider the consequences of our freedom

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## S.F. Fair Honors Bob Cramer

County Fair Chooses Gay Activist as  
"Unsung Hero"

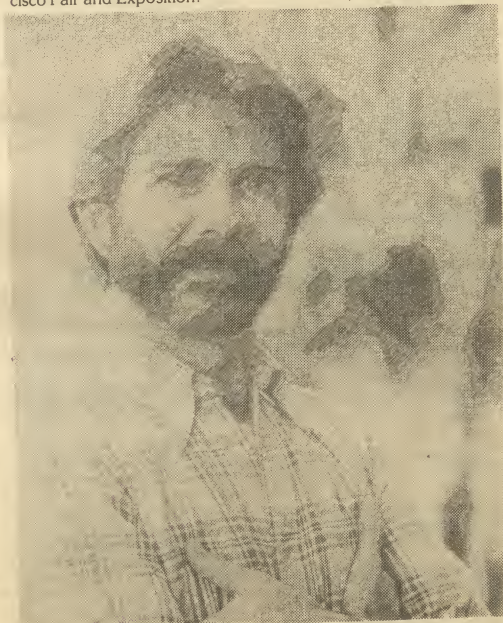
by Allen White

As thousands of people were celebrating Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day in San Francisco, another city-wide event was taking place at Moscone Center. It was the final day of the first San Francisco Fair and Exposition.

The fair is designated for the 5th Agricultural District and is a result of legislation put together by Willie Brown, Art Agnos, and Milton Marks.

Sunday's activities included

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Bob Cramer gets civic commendation at Moscone Center. (Photo: Rink)

## A Major Case

# ACLU Sues SP for Equal Benefits to Gays

## Gay Man Denied Funeral Leave Pay

by Paul Lorch

Once again the ACLU has come to the defense of a Gay person.

Last week the Northern California chapter announced at a press conference that it had filed suit in Superior Court on the behalf of Lawrence Brinkin, 36. In a case which could have major impact on the rights of Gay employees, Brinkin, a secretary/word processor at Southern Pacific was denied funeral leave after the death of his male lover of 11 years.

Matt Coles, a prominent Gay attorney, was spokesman for the ACLU at the press conference; he is handling the case along with ACLU staff attorney Margaret Crosby.

In June 1981 Brinkin's lover died, and Brinkin requested three days pay for funeral leave pursuant to Rule 67 of his union contract which states: "In the event of a death in the immediate family an employee shall be entitled to a maximum of three days off with pay."

Subsequently, Southern Pacific — after Brinkin was told to put his request in writing — denied his request asserting that the policy only applied to a wife or husband.

Brinkin's suit charges SP's denial of benefits is discriminatory under California statutory and constitutional law.

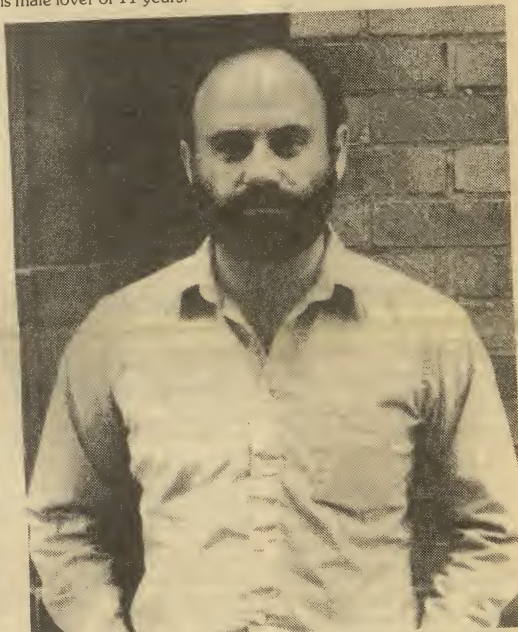
After his company's refusal, Brinkin, who describes himself as a good strong union member, turned to his union. The International Brotherhood of Railway, Airline, and Steamship Clerks. They also refused any help. He said he appealed all the way up the union ladder only to be told that Rule 67 was written "to exclude your kind of relationship."

Brinkin, who has been an employee of Southern Pacific for three years, said, "I am angry and upset with the company for not helping me through this period of mourning — that is what Rule 67 was written for."

At the press conference Coles explained the basis of the lawsuit.

"Rule 67 of the union contract governs funeral laws. This rule discriminates against Gay employees because it conditions funeral leave on a status (marriage) which they are unable to obtain," Coles said. Therefore, the provision violates the San Francisco Police Code which forbids discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual orientation. It also is illegal under the Fair Employment and Housing Act which forbids discrimination in employment on the basis of marital status.

"In addition," Coles said, "Rule 67 conditions the right to funeral leave on how an in-



Lawrence Brinkin — Gay man wants his rights and sues his employer. (Photo: Rink)

dividual makes private decisions about living arrangements, sexuality, and personal commitments. This violates the California Constitution's guarantee of an employee's right to privacy."

The suit also names Brinkin's union as a defendant for negotiating the collective bargaining agreement containing the discriminatory funeral leave rule.

The ACLU is asking the court to award Brinkin damages of three days wages and general damages. In addition, the suit asks the court to declare that Rule 67 unlawfully discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation and marital

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status and unlawfully invades the privacy of employees.

The ACLU is also seeking an injunction to stop the use of Rule 67 and to require SP and the Brotherhood to draw up a rational, nondiscriminatory funeral leave policy.

"I feel I am entitled to take a leave to mourn the death of a man to whom I was totally committed in every way," Brinkin said, adding, "I want to see this rule changed so that in the future it will not be used against me or against any other employee who would suffer from this discriminatory policy."

ACLU attorney Margaret Crosby added, "The marriage criterion is often used to determine eligibility for various kinds of employment and governmental benefits, resulting in widespread discrimination against Gays and other couples who are not formally married."

"This lawsuit illustrates the fundamental unfairness of granting lower compensation to those who do not or cannot establish a state-sanctioned personal relationship. We

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# FBI Spying on Gays Revealed

## Article Raises Storm of Protest

Politicians and Gay leaders were quick to respond to a recent *Advocate* expose on FBI surveillance.

Washington, D.C., free lancer Larry Bush, taking advantage of the Freedom of Information Act, studied FBI files for what they contained about the Gay Rights movement.

Bush, who launched the search with a grant from the Fund for Investigative Journalism of Washington, D.C., came up with some astounding results. The FBI has been stalking the Gay Liberation Movement for over 30 years.

The FBI under the J. Edgar Hoover regime — according to Bush — regularly investigated into the lives of prominent, wealthy homosexuals. The federal detectives collected the names of thousands of suspected homosexuals. They had a file on the early San Francisco-based Gay organization, Society for

Individual Rights (S.I.R.), the Tavern Guild, and the Daughters of Bilitis.

As early as 1943, the article reveals, the FBI paid informants to report on the loyalty of Gay Americans. During World War II the FBI set up male whorehouses both here and abroad, and people like Dr. Alfred Kinsey served as expert consultants.

During the 1960's and 1970's Gay bars were watched, reports Bush. Gay meetings were monitored and organizations infiltrated.

Some of the investigations revealed that there was nothing to investigate. Reads one memo on the Tavern Guild in 1974, "No information developed indicating organization involved in any activity within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI."

As the Bush article was readied for a June publication date, local politicians reacted vigorously. Congressman Phil

Burton fired off a letter to his colleague, Congressman Don Edwards, the chair of the Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights. Burton, who is for the first time assiduously seeking Gay support in his attempts to get re-elected to Congress, requested a full committee investigation of what he called an "outrage."

On June 15 Congressman Edwards wrote to the current director of the FBI, William H. Webster, saying that such tactics "ultimately operate to the detriment of the FBI and our free society as a whole." Edwards asked for a report which he promised to share with Burton.

State Senator Milton Marks, who is challenging Burton's almost two-decade grip on the San Francisco seat, quickly added his complaints to those that followed the Bush revelations. He issued a statement that deplored government intrusion into the lives of its citizens. He wrote, "I have been known throughout my career for my outspoken belief that there is,

in our society, no place for unlawful intrusions into the people's right to privacy."

One of the most outspoken critics of the revelations was Steve Endean, Executive Director of Gay Rights National Lobby, who characterized his reaction as one of "shock and dismay." He said Bush's material confirmed long-held suspicions that the FBI had been conducting massive surveillance against Gay people. Endean questioned whether the invidious program had truly stopped. He said his group would urge a Congressional investigation. Endean called for a letter-writing campaign from members of Congress to FBI Director William Webster to ascertain FBI policy. Endean also called for a GAO audit to learn the amount of federal money being spent by the FBI on surveillance of Gays.

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At week's end Bay Area Congressmen were more concerned with revelations of an about-to-break sex and

drug scandal in the nation's capital.

Nonetheless, Milton Marks pressed on, in a press statement he listed his stand on a number of state bills that protected privacy. He concluded, "The right to privacy is a basic human right; its abridgement cannot and shall not be tolerated."

Bay Area Reporter editor Paul Lorch, also a member of Governor Brown's Privacy Commission, commented, "A telling line surfaces as long ago as 1956, 'In view of the volume of information concerning this activity in the San Francisco area.' The FBI was investigating homosexual activity in San Francisco and already the volume was breaking the file drawer."

Lorch continued, "In the closet I can see the FBI snoops, out of the closet it's like investigating Blacks because they're Blacks. I hope I'm on their list — it gives me a thrill to think of them slurping through my garbage."

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## Stonewall Demos Debate

on others, we are not liberated nor is there a liberating effect."

Some younger members of the audience laughed when publisher Hardman said, "When you are young, it is almost necessary that you be extremely radical." Hardman said there "is a conservative side to living and getting your rights that cannot be ignored. You have to put on a tie when you go to court to get your rights. You play their game and you beat them at what they are doing. The society has rules, and if we can use them to our advantage we can beat them."

Wallace, a longtime labor activist, agreed partly but added, "Gay rights gains are made by scaring the living shit out of the ruling class in this country. That is what brought about Black rights and to a large extent Gay rights." He said it was unfortunate that "there is now a conservatism in the minority rights movements. An inertia is setting in as a result with politicians in regard to our needs." He joined others in calling for less dependency within the Gay community on "leaders" and more direct involvement.

Alexander emphasized a consistent theme, "It is important that we do not focus exclusively on law but that we concern ourselves with what kind of society we want this to be. How do we want the next generation to live?"

### GAY LIFESTYLE

The alienation between Gay people within the community was felt deeply by several speakers. Norman said, "We are very oppressive to each other by not recognizing and assisting each other. We have never gone to 'lifestyle' classes and we don't educate ourselves." She said that it is a bitter reality that "we don't like ourselves or each other. While this may also be true outside of our community, we should be dealing with it. Too often we get into drugs and drinking to try to deal with our isolation. It is a 'Gay liberation' problem that we cannot even talk about with each other."

Evans agreed with Alexander that the earlier days of the Gay movement — emphasizing the early 1970's — were rewarding because "I could discover who I was, a human

being. There was a participatory democracy about the Gay Activist Alliance and the Gay Liberation Front that does not exist today." He said that "Gay liberation" today is perceived by too many people as a clone commercialism.

In the past five years, Evans said, he had become "increasingly depressed, alienated, and defeated" by what is taking place in the Gay male world. He stressed that a clone capitalism has been deliberately created by Gay businesses to create a commercially successful conformity. Evans said that a specified body type and dress code has made Gay people a predictable market: "It didn't just happen. We have been sold a bill of goods. This does not represent who we really are. It represents the interests of businesses."

The real enemy, Evans urged, is not the Moral Majority but those who produce poppers, expensive real estate, and *The Advocate* with its trivialist Gay-managed Gay culture which is neo-faggot meatballism.

The concern about legal

against the Bay Area Reporter was part of the Police Officers Association's plan to defeat the idea of a Police Review Board.

At the time the paper was accused of being part of a left-wing conspiracy — along with the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club and Supervisor Harry Britt. The conspiracy was allegedly formed to discredit the San Francisco Police Department.

Twice the POA suit was rejected by the Superior Court for failing to display a cause of action. POA attorneys chose not to file a third time and walked away from the suit. The ACLU heralded the case as a substantial victory. Since the abandonment of the case, the ACLU has requested the court to assign substantial costs to the Police Officers Association.

Paul Lorch



Gerry Parker, Stonewall Demo's sanguine president, introduces his panel of eight at Stonewall's July meeting. "Is Gay Liberation Dead?" attracted 100 listeners. (Photo: Rink)

rights, the future of the Gay liberation movement and lifestyle led into a vigorous and lengthy audience discussion which will be related in a subsequent issue of Bay Area Reporter.

Bob Basker, who was a leader in Florida against Anita Bryant, gave this audience reaction: "The Gay movement has flowered at a tremendous rate in a few years. This is a long-term struggle. Don't let

us pull out because of temporary cutbacks. Participate."

Stonewall Club promises future forums so answers can be resolved to the problem presented by Norman: "We need to determine where we are going. Then we need to talk about a map indicating how we can get from here to there."

George Mendenhall

## ACLU Sues SP for Equal Benefits

(Continued from Page 1)

hope that the decision in this case will set a precedent for a more equitable system of distributing benefits in a pluralistic society," Crosby said.

This makes the third time this year the Northern California chapter of the ACLU has undertaken a Gay-related case. The ACLU beat off two police libel suits — one by the POA against the Bay Area Reporter and a second by Homicide Inspector Frank Falzon against Randy Schell.

The B.A.R. suit was closely watched by Bay Area media professionals, who increasingly have been under siege by special interest groups who do not want to be reported on. The \$20 million libel suit



No funeral leave after Gay lover's death. Laurence Brinkin fights back. (Photo: Rink)

## GGBA/BAPHR Sponsor Health Seminar

The Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA) and the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) have announced plans to jointly sponsor a seminar entitled "Update on Gay Health Problems: The Truth Behind the Headlines." The event is planned for Thursday, July 22, and will be held in the San Francisco Medical Society Auditorium located at 250 Masonic Avenue near Fulton.

The seminar is designed to provide the latest information on current research, symptoms, and treatments relative to hepatitis, Kaposi's sar-

coma, herpes, and various sexually transmitted diseases.

Scheduled guest speakers include Steve Borkovic, MD; Richard Cazen, MD; Patrick McGraw, MD; and William Owen, MD. The seminar speakers will use nonmedical/layperson's language. A question and answer period will follow the seminar.

No-host cocktails begin at 6:30pm followed by the seminar at 7:30pm. Admission is free to all interested people. More information on this seminar may be obtained from the GGBA office by calling 956-8660.



# Busts Boost Weedstock

## Boom Boom Blossoms Campaign on Castro Corner

by Konstantin Berlandt

In a harried voice P. Pebbles answered the phone at California Marijuana Initiative headquarters at 145-A Florida, "Hello, Weedstock."

It was the day after the 3-day weekend event in Civic Center Plaza that started Saturday as a smoke-in and ended Monday as a sit-in, after suffering multiple permit denials, revocations, and busts of the organizers a month before the event. San Francisco police made a score more arrests during the 3-day peaceful affair, according to organizer Pebbles.

Television cameras from several local stations recorded arrests the first day, including Weedstock organizer Stoney for offering joints to the crowd at 50-cent donations to the cause. Stoney faced five counts, including two for sale and two for distribution of the illegal weed.

"Bullshit charges," Pebbles called most of the arrests, "basically picking on us to stop the event" she described as a "coming out" party for marijuana smokers. The event was billed as a "Sex, Dope and Rock 'n' Roll Liberation" rally and promised "civil disobedience" of marijuana laws.

Bill Chapell was arrested for malicious mischief for painting the name of the event in watercolors on the BART station glass, Pebbles related, but his charges, like

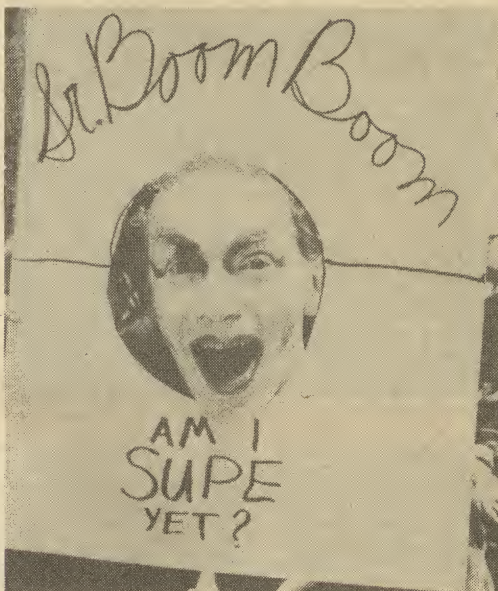
many of the others, were dismissed.

On the second day, Sunday the Fourth, Pebbles continued, members of the 6:10 Pacific band were arrested for attempting to set up amplified sound equipment and perform rock 'n' roll. They immediately nicknamed themselves the "Banned Band."

At 4am Monday morning, 14 people, including Pebbles herself, were busted for camping overnight in the park. They were partying inside a makeshift house built on the site by Nathan Clifton, who has come "all the way from Texas for Weedstock," Pebbles said.

Banners, signs, buttons, and bumper strips that the group was selling at the 3-day rally were confiscated in the early morning raid. "Held as evidence," Pebbles said sarcastically. "Evidence of what? Free speech, it seems to me." One banner said, "Freedom is the issue."

Pebbles insisted the group's free speech had been abridged by the Park and Recreation Department's permit revocation the week before, for which police had shut down their amplified sound. "The Bill of Rights is all the permit anyone ever needs," she maintained, adding that Constitutional guarantees include, "The government doesn't have to give its permission for us to criticize it."



Sister Boom Boom on the ladder to political heights. (Photo: Rink)

Such "symbolic speech" as draft card burning and lighting up a joint is also covered by First Amendment guarantees, she held. "We are not going to roll over when our permit is taken away."

She noted that municipal authority to regulate time, place, and manner of speech was a scheduling function only, to ensure rallies would not overlap. It does not, however, give the city power to discriminate based on the content of the speech planned. She also pointed to two

other rallies, one for the Equal Rights Amendment, the other Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day, both held at the same location in the same week, and she demanded equality of free speech.

Before its permit hassles and the bust of the Marijuana Initiative headquarters in May, Weedstock had been planned as a major event in a campaign for half a million signatures before mid-August to qualify the legalization of marijuana referendum for the state's November ballot. Peb-

bles estimates only 50,000 signatures had thus far been collected for the petition, she says, endorsed by Supervisors Nancy Walker and Harry Britt.

Nevertheless, she promised Weedstock II for somewhere in San Francisco on Labor Day.

The Fourth of July weekend event had been scheduled in solidarity with the annual Yippie smoke-in and encampment July 1-5 in Washington, D.C. Pebbles said that event was not busted like the one here.

Meanwhile, Sister Boom Boom, who had planned to make his formal candidacy announcement the first day of Weedstock, was discouraged when police prevented stage, sound, and program. Tuesday afternoon, however, he was out on that familiar corner of 18th and Castro Streets hustling signatures to qualify for the Board of Supervisors race.

In three hours he had already gathered a quarter of the 800 signatures needed to put him on the November ballot.

Smiled one of her petition signers, "It's time."

"A-men!," dittoed another.

In her far-reaching eyelashes and torn black mesh stockings under habit, the Sister of Perpetual Indulgence was also busy collecting phone numbers, and appeared so confident of gathering the required number of signatures long before the mid-August deadline, she was already making campaign promises, telling one young man, his phone number already in hand, "I'll give you anything you want."

## HOW SIN-SATIONAL! Captain Video and Media Home Entertainment present a MAE WEST LOOK ALIKE CONTEST



### Judged by:

JOHN STARK, movie critic, San Francisco Examiner  
JOHN KARR, entertainment editor, Bay Area Reporter  
LORI SHANNON, female impersonator

### What do you have to do?

- 1) Dress as MAE WEST from any of your favorite films or fantasies.
- 2) Submit your entry form to register no later than Wednesday, July 21st at CAPTAIN VIDEO: 2358 Market St. or 2268 Lombard St.
- 3) Be there. The judging will take place at CAPTAIN VIDEO, 2358 Market Street promptly at 12:00 pm on Saturday, July 24th.

### GRAND PRIZE:

A NIGHT ON THE TOWN FOR TWO • DRINKS AT TOP OF THE MARK • DINNER AT NOB HILL RESTAURANT • CAPTAIN VIDEO CLUB MEMBERSHIP • SEXTETTE VIDEO CASSETTE

### SECOND PRIZE:

LIMITED EDITION SIGNED MAE WEST LITHOGRAPH • CAPTAIN VIDEO CLUB MEMBERSHIP • SEXTETTE VIDEO CASSETTE

### THIRD PRIZE:

CAPTAIN VIDEO CLUB MEMBERSHIP • FRAMED SEXTETTE POSTER • SEXTETTE VIDEO CASSETTE



ADDITIONAL ENTRY FORMS ALSO AVAILABLE AT BOTH CAPTAIN VIDEO LOCATIONS.



### MAE WEST Entry Blank

Submit your entry form to register no later than Wednesday, July 21st at CAPTAIN VIDEO 2358 Market St. or 2268 Lombard St

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



# Capital Sex Story Distorted

## Adult Sex is Involved, Not Children

by George Mendenhall

United Press International and Associated Press continue to refer to 16-18 year old pages in Washington, D.C., as "boys" when under the law in the nation's capital they are legally fully adults. The capital does not have a consensual sex law, so all sex "outside of wedlock" is illegal.

Sex between congressmen and pages is an adult matter. The public is being led to believe what is involved is illegal child molestation. UPI and AP have used the same "boys" label in earlier cases involving young adults in capital sex inquiries. A look into a dictionary reveals that "boys" are "male children" so the public is being again misled.

The sex allegations stem from a months-long cocaine investigation which it is rumored could involve ten congressmen and two senators. One former page, Jeff Opp, began to discuss homosexual relations with congressmen. Other pages have been quizzed, and capital police records on some congressmen have been obtained by the FBI. How broad the allegations will actually extend will not be realized until Congress reconvenes on July 12 after a holiday.

Congress will likely move

quickly to investigate and expel any wrongdoers before the November elections. Public investigations will be held by the House Ethics Committee because the central issue is whether some pages were "coerced" into sex and drugs in order to gain political favors from congressmen.

Frank Kameny, a capital director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, told *Bay Area Reporter*: "Congress is primarily concerned about possible favors being given. The issue is no different than if a

16-year old female office secretary were involved. We don't know what will happen here, but the sex angle is already being defused. We may end up with only one or two horrendous examples of sexual activity.

"There is some question of honesty by the pages. The FBI has announced that pages have been warned about the penalties for perjury. They are telling the pages, 'You better not make wanton accusations. You damn well better be speaking the truth or you are going to

be in serious trouble.' That will dampen the earlier stories."

Kameny, who for 30 years has walked the corridors at the Capitol for Gay rights issues, said, "I don't think the sex charges will mean anything to the Gay rights movement. The political Right may use this, of course, but generally it will end up being very unimportant. In fact, female pages are now being mentioned and cocaine charges are what is being emphasized."

Washington, D.C., police have said repeatedly, in writing, that they have no intention of arresting anyone for private, consensual sex. The local city council unanimously approved a consensual sex law in 1981 but was rejected by the nation's capital "overseer" — Congress itself. Kameny says, "We will try again when we think we have the votes in Congress. Meanwhile, I am on the commission here that is attempting to make the capital a state."

CBS News has carried an

interview with page Opp, who appeared with his back to the viewer. Other pages were talking to the press, but no names were revealed. One congressman, Rep. Larry Craig (R-Idaho), has denied that he was involved in either Gay sex or narcotics after his name was mentioned behind closed doors. Meanwhile, the accusations are flying with ABC reporting "at least seven congressmen are involved in sex charges" and CBS calling it all a "call-boy ring." An FBI spokesman said that realistically, "We are probably talking about two or three congressmen."

There are 70 House pages, ranging from 16-18 years of age, who live in communal or private quarters around the capital. Their average stay in Washington is one semester, although some stay for two years. They attend a Capitol Page School. Each receives \$600 a month from which they pay for uniforms, lodging and meals. Politically influential parents usually arrange the job appointments through Capitol contacts. ■

## S.F. Fair Honors Bob Cramer

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the honoring of "San Francisco's Unsung Heroes." Award after award was presented by such celebrities as Willie McCovey, Fire Chief Andrew Casper, Rev. Cecil Williams, Ruth Asawa, and Gina Moscone.

The unsung heroes represented all areas of the city including the Gay community. Elaine Foreman, who holds craft classes in the Tenderloin, was honored. Fireman Robert Lamey, who contributed to the city by perfecting breathing equipment for firefighters, was acknowledged as was Jeanne Hamer, a Native American who works many hours a week for senior citizens. Tom Mellon, a former Chief Administrative Officer for San Francisco, honored Eleanor Crabtree for her work in restoring the windmills in Golden Gate Park.

There was one award in the

Gay community. The recipient was Bob Cramer. He was honored for creating the Cable Car Awards, heading the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, and keeping alive the spirit of Emperor Norton (that means he was an Emperor). The award was presented by Florette Pomeroy, a woman who has spent much time developing a successful alcoholic rehabilitation program in San Francisco.

The honor was significant, not only for Cramer, but also for San Francisco's Gay community. It is noteworthy that this was one of the only acknowledgements of the Gay community in the three-day event. The omission was not a slight; it was the result of scheduling an event that conflicted with the largest Gay event in the world. Every performing arts group contacted was scheduled to an extent

that they were not available for participation. John Cailleau, who will be next year's vice president, is expecting a much larger Gay input. The Fair promoters saw to it that their event was advertised in the Gay press. Next year the date will be changed.

Randy Shilts did appear at the fair to autograph his book, *The Mayor of Castro Street*. There was a poster for sale by Jodie Green themed to this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day activities for which \$1.00 out of every poster sold will go to the Parade Committee. Several historical exhibits were the product of members of the Gay community.

In its three-day stand at Moscone Center, the first San Francisco Fair and Exposition drew 65,000 people. It is planned as an annual event. ■

Allen White

## NGTF Urges Fair Reporting on Congressional Sex

The National Gay Task Force has strenuously agreed with the Justice Department that sexual preference should not be the focus of the pending investigation into recent allegations by Congressional Pages concerning sexual liaisons with Representatives.

Lucia Valeska, Executive Director of NGTF, urged fair media coverage, noting that heterosexual as well as homosexual liaisons were described by Pages.

"If media reports confuse the issues, the public might be led to inaccurately perceive the incidents as solely homosexual," she cautioned.

Valeska added, "We are now experiencing an increase in violence and bigotry against Gay citizens, and we are concerned that alarmist headlines may result in an escalation of crimes against Gay people."

## Democrats Here in 1984?

Gay Rights on TV Cloud S.F. as Site

"More conservative Democratic Party leaders may be put off by the certainty of nationally televised Gay rights demonstrations if they convene in San Francisco," political analyst Larry Liebert recently wrote in his *San Francisco Chronicle* column. Liebert was commenting on the deliberations that will soon begin by the National Democratic Party as to where they will have their 1984 convention.

The two popular candidates for President in the Democratic slate are former Vice President Walter Mondale and Senator Ted Kennedy. Mondale's selection at the convention could disturb a number of local Gay activists who remember his refusal to even make a simple statement supporting Gay rights during a 1977 speech here. Although Gay activists demonstrated to protest his silence, Mondale made a quick exit rather than respond. However, at the recent formation of the new National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs in Philadelphia, Mondale addressed the group.

Charles Manatt, National Democratic Party chair, addressed the new Gay organization at the East Coast meeting. He personally favors

San Francisco for the 1984 site. Local Gay activists would cheer this selection, as it would give them an opportunity to express their concerns with large numbers of bodies at the convention site. There will be an impressive number of upfront delegates in the convention hall itself.

There is some reservation on the part of Mayor Feinstein because the cost of sponsoring the meeting could reach \$6 million — with a good chunk of it possibly coming from the city itself. She has asked city departments and the convention bureau to present cost estimates.

The 1984 convention could not be held at Moscone Center because it is too small or the Cow Palace, which had the 1964 Republican convention, because it is too old. Most likely, the affair would be at the Oakland Coliseum with BART being the shuttle service. Feinstein may meet with Oakland's Mayor Lionel Wilson to make the offer to the Democrats as a two-city bid.

Houston and New Orleans are also being considered, but they are in anti-ERA states and being boycotted. Other cities may also be considered and the final selection will be announced by January, 1983... GM

## 80,000 View L.A. Parade

The Christopher Street West Parade here increased in size again as over 80,000 cheered and marched in the event that drew 100 floats, bands, motorcycle units (and you-name-it) on June 27. The 1.2 mile parade route stretched down Santa Monica Boulevard in the county territory of West Hollywood.

The parade no longer marches down Hollywood Boulevard, where Los Angeles police used clubs one year to keep people from entering the parade once it began. The county Sheriff's Department cooperates fully with parade sponsors.

There was a sameness between the San Francisco pa-

rade units and the local participants. A Gayrilla marcher did his thing in a gorilla suit, Studio One had a large float with taped disco music, and the Parents and Friends of Gays, Orange County division, got the biggest crowd response. There was drag, businessmen in suits, and enough topless bodies to please all. Sedate units from Metropolitan Community Church and the Gay political clubs received scattered applause.

Acting Mayor Joel Wachs joined Assemblymen Herschel Rosenthal and Howard Berman in open cars. Popular Hollywood Supervisor Ed Edelman received considerable applause along with City

Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky.

The only parade incident involved Gary Ritts, a fundamentalist minister who had his "Repent or Perish" sign taken from him by a spectator. He told police, "I came so some of these people won't go to hell. If I saved one, it was worth it."

Close to 100,000 packed the Los Angeles Design Center parking lot later where endless booths and displays were enjoyed beyond sunset. Only one incident happened here — a young man stripped nude while atop a utility pole. No one complained, but Center officials convinced him to put his pants on.

tions with solid political muscle.

Mike Farrell's impressive video presentation, coupled with a direct mail appeal by playwright Tennessee Williams, and an extraordinary Advisory Committee, which includes a number of mayors and bishops, marks a significant departure from previous efforts, both in terms of professionalism and outreach to mainstream America.

## Star Gives Video Presentation for Human Rights Fund

Actor Mike Farrell, B.J. Hunnicutt on the popular television series "M\*A\*S\*H," has made a twenty-minute video presentation for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the new pro-Gay civil rights/privacy rights political action committee.

According to Steve Endean, the Campaign Fund Treasurer and Chief Execu-

tive Officer, who is also Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, the video presentation that Farrell made will be used by the Campaign Fund's City Committees at cocktail parties and meetings, and in major donor solicitations. The Campaign Fund is raising monies for pro-Gay civil rights Congressional candidates, supplementing already good inten-



# More Changes at the Chorus

## Debt Still Huge

by Allen White

Ernest L. Veniegas has been chosen as the new Music Director for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. At the same time, chorus business manager Jay Davidson will be resigning to be replaced by Johnny Martin.

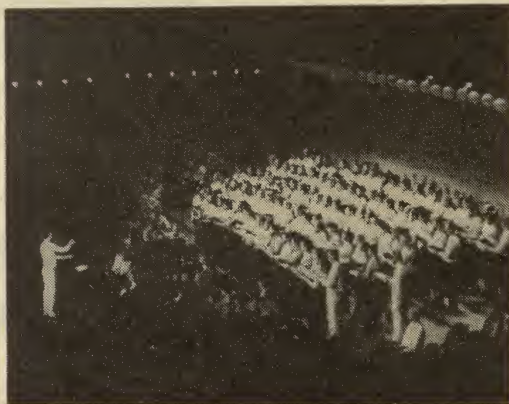
These changes mark several major shifts for the choral group. As the personnel changes are made, the chorus continues to wrestle with a debt of approximately \$160,000. The debt is from their national tour in 1981. The interest on the debt runs about \$100 per day.

Ernest L. Veniegas was one of six finalists chosen from a field of 28 applicants for the position. Born and raised in Hawaii, Veniegas is a graduate of the University of Hawaii. His conducting career has included two-year positions as director of the 150-voice Honolulu Symphony Chorus and the 100-voice Hawaii Opera Theatre Chorus. He has been featured as soloist with both the Honolulu Symphony and the Hawaii Opera Theatre.

Johnny Martin will become the new business manager for

the organization. He replaces Jay Davidson, who has been in the position almost since the beginning of the chorus, which was formed in late 1978. Davidson will continue as coordinator of GALA, a loosely formed organization of Gay bands and choruses throughout the United States.

The bulk of the chorus debt is tied up in loans against two homes. A loan against a third piece of property was paid off earlier this year, which reduced the debt from an even higher sum. The chorus has, as an organization, taken on the responsibility of paying the interest payments. The parent group, Golden Gate Performing Arts, has been working at eliminating the principal. Carillon Importers,



New heads for Gay Chorus. Old debt lingers on. (Photo: Rink)

Ltd., who import Absolut Vodka from Sweden, recently contributed \$5,000.

The combined salary costs for the music director and the business manager are approximately \$1,500 a month.

As with any organization, changes are anticipated as the new music director takes charge of the Gay Men's Chorus. Ernest Veniegas began his new position on July 1.

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus was founded in November of 1978 by Jon Sims and first sang November 27 of that year on the steps of City Hall following the death of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. In December of that year, Dick Kramer was named director and held the position through February of this year when he resigned in a storm of controversy. ■

## Draft Lawyer Offers Free Defense

San Anselmo draft lawyer R. Charles Johnson, an upfront Gay, is offering his services free of charge to one of the 200 men the government will be prosecuting for failure to register for the draft. These first 200 prosecutions will be test cases for the government will be prosecuting for failure to register for the draft. These first 200 prosecutions will be test cases for the government, and there are many legal technicalities that Johnson wants to be sure are addressed in court.

Although the Selective Service System is reporting that 93% of the men required to register have done so, other sources report a noncompliance rate as high as 40%. These first prosecutions, along with the Selective Service announcement that they are going to search out other nonregistrants by computer cross-reference with Social Security files, will undoubtedly spur nonregistrants to take advantage of "late registration" offered by the System. As Johnson points out in his book *Don't Sit in the Draft*, "Men who register late can still be prosecuted at some later time."

Johnson can be reached at his office in San Anselmo at (415) 456-5085. From the calls he receives he will select one case that is to be tried in San Francisco.

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VOL. XII NO. 27 JULY 8, 1982

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## VIEWPOINT

### Why 'Gay' Gay Cops

Last issue we reopened the old discussion of Gays taking jobs in the SFPD. We called to task Chief Con Murphy for what we saw as backpedaling (that despite a Board of Supervisors policy vote urging him to recruit Gays and Lesbians) despite that his department has made such efforts in the past, despite the high priority of the issue in the Gay community, he wasn't going to do it.

And what's more despite the fact that Sheriff Mike Hennessey has so performed in his department, that Arlo Smith has made especial effort to hire Deputy DA's and investigators, and that Jeff Brown has similarly reached out to Gay Public Defenders and investigators, the Police Department via Con Murphy's say so would have none of it.

We have been informed that policy at SFPD has changed. But why were we so miffed at the negative response in the first place. Filter any "no Gays" policy down to the officer on the beat and it translates to "the Chief says they're not welcome" and "any that come across my path are going to be made to feel they're not wanted." Spread that through the ranks and you have open season on any homosexuals who have sneaked in past the barriers.

Add on that the positive approaches of the other three branches of criminal justice cost their coffers not a copper. It was a natural outgrowth of their positive attitudes and enthusiasm. Con Murphy, on the other hand, is not a visionary or an innovator; he is regarded as a protector of the old-boy status quo. He only moves when he is pushed. His constituency is not the voter but the Police Officers Association, which is about as progressive as the Daughters of the American Revolution. Protectionists, who spend their energies and their members' dues in a holding action — that is when their leaders are not angling for political office.

Several years ago Les Morgan conceived and nurtured along a private Gay Outreach program. As he designed it, the plan was to identify male and female homosexuals who wanted to be police officers and whose homosexuality might be a deterrent. They were counseled, prepared, massaged, supported in what we came to see as a quasi secret society. Everything was there except being out of the closet.

We vigorously argued over this clandestine approach. That separatist protection, we feared, would only feed on itself and breed ever firmer roots of apprehension. Or that the candidates would bury themselves deeper in the closet than they were ever in before they embarked on their police career.

The reasons for anonymity were repeated endlessly. Someone's future hopes as an undercover cop would be compromised. Publicity became the dragon. "Raked over the coals by the press." "Ominous phone calls in the middle of the night." "My mother will find out." "What would my partner say or do if my picture was on television . . . ?" And our response, as with all such spooks in the night, was "poppycock" — do what anyone does when they get spook phone calls — change the number or get an answering machine. As for "massive" publicity, it lasts for about 48 hours. Much less than the common cold but more dangerous, for from our experience — it can linger but in the stuffed head of the sudden star who begins to believe the exposure's smoke puffs.

At this point for the male and female homosexuals in the PD closet, we wouldn't begin to lecture them on Gay liberation. They have made their choices, dug their own slammers, and are welcome to their phobias. It will be rough, for they are playing double identities (that is rough on themselves, their lovers, their friends, and their tricks).

Had they been out of the closet from the first, out of the closet as a group — announcing to the world and any homophobe within earshot, "Watch out; we're here and here to stay — don't tread on our toes."

But all that in a way is hindsight, or armchair generalship. Maybe it had to be that way for the first wave, the first troops ashore.

(Continued on next page)

## LETTERS

### THREATS OF ART

★ Re Rick Leathers letter concerning John Karr's article about Jim Wigler's photographs, specifically name-calling — nerts, neurotic, faggot, nervous nelly — and the one line, "makes me want to strap him to a rack and take the skin off his backside."

I don't know much about John Karr, but I would think he had more smarts than to threaten someone's life, put it in writing, sign it with his real name, and then place it in a paper for thousands to read, as our not too bright Mr. Rick Leathers has done.

It appears Mr. Leathers is a homosexual who may be a psychopath who is confusing homosexual legal rights with the rights of psychopaths. At the moment the main thrust is on your rights as a homosexual man, Mr. Leathers. Whether you have a right to threaten and torture people is rather tenuous.

D. Roberts  
San Francisco

### SEND THE VERY BEST BACK

★ The only way to acknowledge that we don't want a commercial "Hallmark" store is by avoiding shopping there.

John Clairmont  
San Francisco

### OLDTIMER IRE

★ The artist and lady who sleeps on the bench that you so "piss-piously" protest have been fixtures on Castro since before the gay take-over of the 70's. They gave the gays then no trouble and only add local color to our unusual city.

The late Sally Stanford often said San Francisco was destroyed by the Midwesterners and Southerners who passed through during WWII and fell in love with our city; but when they migrated here with their families, they brought their narrow-minded ideals and morals to superimpose on us and in so doing, destroyed the very thing that lured them here in the first place.

Where were you in 1970 when the gays had to fight for survival on Castro? (Back in jerk circles in Arkansas?) Western culture, especially San Francisco, has always had a live and let live policy.

There are many of us who still remember the days when being gay in San Francisco was not fashionable. Straight gangs were a major problem on Castro then. Some of us did something about it. Clone Queens like you have moved in to reap the benefits of our work. That is what we hoped for. But we did not count on your peers bringing their narrow-minded bitchiness with them. We thought you would come to a new life, not to impose the tired one you wanted to escape. Why waste time on a couple of harmless derelicts, as you call them, and miss the major foes of our lifestyle that exist.

Bob Reed  
San Francisco

### ROUGE ET NOIR

★ In answer to the Red Queen's questions, "What kind of a man gets turned on by fantasies of violence against other men?" and "Isn't that the essence of homophobia?"

Intense men with intense passions need intense releases. The fantasy world has always been a safe outlet for such energies. A leatherman jacking-off to Jim Wigler's photos, a bodybuilder cheering Conan on as he hacks up the bad guys, a seminary student identifying with ancient Hebrew heroes as they prac-

tice genocide on various Caananite tribes, or a politically correct queen reading about slaughter and maiming in *The Lord of the Rings* are all participating in fantasy violence. As a species we have practically eliminated any predators that might trigger our flight-or-fight responses, yet those systems are still very much a part of our race-inheritance. We humans can be very aggressive beasts, and dangerous situations have arisen whenever attempts have been made to repress that aggression. Rather than criticize men who enjoy fantasies of violence, I think such men should be applauded for dealing with their aggressions in a safe and pleasurable way. Had Hitler, Adolph Eichmann, or Ernst Roehm lived in a sexually open society where they could have been encouraged to find buddies who would share in mutually pleasurable S/M activities they might never have been driven to the madness of genuine sadism, and a lot of innocent people spared immeasurable suffering.

At the root of "R.Q.'s" first question is a problem that in one way or another affects the entire gay community. Do we truly understand the difference between fantasy and reality? Men who are accustomed to S/M fantasies do know the difference between photos of models with weapons and homophobic cops bashing a helpless faggot. Guys who have never had the opportunity, or the courage, to act out their fantasies might, seeing the photos through a paranoid blur, mistake them for the same thing. An intellectual concept won't always substitute for physical experience.

The problem starts when guys make assumptions about real people according to their fantasies. A man may approach a muscled, leather-clad STUD in a bar only to learn that by day said stud is an office clerk who is into disco and qualudes. He's turned off and a little resentful because the man didn't live up to his fantasy. Who is at fault? Neither man harmed anyone. The one who approached only wanted to act out his fantasy in a safe, pleasurable way. The STUD only wanted to display a certain image without backing it up with the behavior that it implied. Political rhetoric aside, what harm was done?

A man South of Market wearing a swastika is no more condoning the Holocaust in Europe than a man calling himself the RED Queen would approve of the 20+ millions who were killed in Stalin's purges. Fantasy is fantasy and reality is reality. A man with his keys on the left is not necessarily a top. A man on Castro dressed in red flannel shirt, 501's, and boots is not necessarily a logger. A man disciplining a willing victim is not necessarily a homophobic monster. And a political queen who styles herself a guardian of community virtues is not always as selfless as he seems (after all, Arthur, if you have to be cheered as St. George, you have to create a dragon somewhere). When fantasy and reality get blurred, someone is either confused . . . or lying.

Hurling empty clichés about homophobia and poorly understood fantasies only widens the mistrust and lack of clear communication among the various segments of our multi-faceted community. What I'm trying to say, Arthur, is that your neurotic whining is rapidly becoming a part of the problem and not part of the solution. It is time that we faggots learned to understand and be supportive of each other. Somehow I doubt that trite, bitchy sniping is going to encourage the gentleness and sensitivity we need to use in dealing both with our brothers and with ourselves.

Rick Leathers  
San Francisco

### PARADE BLAST

★ The big parade was too loud! The decibel level near Civic Center Plaza was deafening (no lie). I had to leave by 1 pm to save my hearing.

The committee of Parade organizers should know that some of us do not go to discos — and as a result have keen hearing. Next year, please think of the health of the celebrants.

David Knight  
San Francisco

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# LETTERS

## NOTHING GAY AT HALLMARK

★ On my way to Cliff's Hardware yesterday I was suddenly taken aback to notice a new store on Castro Street: a franchise Hallmark card shop. Out of curiosity I wandered in to see if Hallmark had decided to outgrow its suburban origins and develop some gay consciousness. But nope, nary a gay card did I see in the whole store.

I hope this isn't a harbinger of things to come. Is Castro Street now so high-priced that small entrepreneurs can no longer afford the rents? Can we expect the street to become a Stonestown East in the coming years, with small merchants forced out and chain stores taking their place?

I consider the Hallmark card shop to be an affront to the Castro community. I find it personally offensive that my neighborhood shopping district, whose charm and originality lies in the diversity of its privately-owned gay shops and boutiques, has been invaded by this soulless commercial monolith.

I don't know how residents of the neighborhood can make their displeasure known in an effective way. Perhaps one small way would be to make a point of visiting the store and making known to the management that their total lack of any gay-oriented merchandise has resulted in your not making a purchase there.

Dennis Kruszynski  
San Francisco

## NO SNUB HUBBUB

★ I would like to respond to Tom Rogers' recent article (B.A.R., June 24) in which he alleges that I "walked out" of the San Jose rally. I am, first of all, disappointed that Mr. Rogers did not see fit to ask me personally what transpired on June 20. It is unfortunate that he felt obliged to report only what he had heard from others, and what Jack Britton alleged in his impromptu "speech" concerning my public credibility.

I have always believed in the philosophy that if you are going to do something, do it right or don't do it at all. My decision to withdraw the Watergarden display was based on my feeling that the conditions under which the display were set were not aesthetically pleasing and were incompatible with the standards both of the Watergarden and of the rally as a whole. This was a decision that I made personally and for which I assume full responsibility.

That anyone should characterize my decision temporarily to leave the rally as a "snub" of the day's festivities is absurd; my action was, rather, the result of my own frustrations with the setting of the Watergarden display.

In my view, it was Jack Britton's vitriol focused against me that day that has truly served to undermine our already sadly divided community. For Mr. Britton to exploit my personal frustration by making a speech about my activities in my absence, and by twisting comments I had made to suit his own purposes, was inexcusable. I would be only too happy to contrast my record as a gay activist with Mr. Britton's. (Let us not forget on which side of the gay picket line Mr. Britton stood during San Jose's boycott against Marriott's.) I know that Mr. Britton's attempt to undermine me and the Watergarden will not be quickly forgotten by the many Gay people who have over the years learned to trust me and the Watergarden as well.

In closing, I would like to make it absolutely clear that in no way was my decision to leave the rally early an indication of any hostility toward it on my part. Indeed, the rally committee should be proud of its efforts despite the internal problems that have plagued it during the last year.

Sal Accardi  
San Jose, CA

## TICKET SPAT

To All Gay Musical Celebrants:

Golden Gate Performing Arts apologizes to all who had difficulty with their seating at the 4th Annual Gay Musical Celebration at Civic Auditorium on Friday, June 25, 1982.

We were as surprised as anyone that these problems occurred, but we are thoroughly investigating the situation in order that it never happens again.

At this point, certain aspects are clear. There were reserved and general admission seating both on the main floor and upstairs. Most of the problems occurred with general admission ticket holders taking reserved seats. There appear to be several reasons for this, the accuracy of which is not yet fully established. It was hard to identify one section from another in that large building. Some general admission tickets, unbeknownst to us, had some extraneous wording such as "loge" or "dress circle" which was misleading and not relevant to their seating. There appear to be a few cases of duplicated tickets. There may also have been some misinformation about seating given out by certain ticket outlets.

For all of these problems we can and do take responsibility. However, we will not take responsibility for some ticket holders who refused to cooperate with the house staff, thereby adding greater disruption to what was otherwise a fine evening of gay celebration.

The Board of Directors  
Golden Gate Performing Arts  
San Francisco

## LADY CAMP?

Dear Editor or other man in charge:

My fellow ladies and I were very surprised to hear that we had been awarded the title of "Most Outrageous Contingent" in the Lesbian/Gay Parade. We had frankly expected to be awarded recognition for the Most Morally Uplifting and Politically Convincing.

There we were, chanting like cheerleaders: "Into the closets and out of the streets." "Keep our nation on the track — one step forward, three steps back." "Bye, bye, E.R.A. — Patriarchy's here to stay." "Hit us again, hit us again, harder, harder!" "Procreation, not recreation: Close your eyes and do your duty!" and the rallying cry of the ladies on the sidelines, who joined in enthusiastically: "What do we want? NOTHING! When do we want it? NOW!"

The ladies from N.O.W., who sponsored our appearance, looked charming in pink polyester, though I later learned that they are not the Normal Obedient Wives group I have been longing to meet.

Ladies Against Women (L.A.W.) members who marched in the parade were shocked by the diversity of heresies in this city, though we did like how the parade contained a lot of commercials. Remember, An Open Mind is the Devil's Workshop, and your sins are related to other national issues, like the right to life for each and every innocent sperm and ovum. You certainly are murdering a lot of them!

His Truly,

Virginia (Mrs. Chester) Cholesterol  
Berkeley, CA

R.S.V.P. with questions or cooking tips:  
L.A.W. service: 841-6500

## PARADE PIQUE

★ This last parade was great, except a lot of our views were muted by our own Parade Committee. Who are these people and how did they get where they are? I guess most importantly are they Feinstein puppets like the Super Britt model?

I am also interested as to why the monitors were not on top of it this year as in the past. I saw at one point a Rolls Royce almost run over one of them. This was only to be followed by the I-Beam float. May God give that poor boy's sister and lover the peace they must need, as my heart goes out to them.

Last and most importantly — doesn't Lesbian and Gay equal two and not one? Why does this inner falaciousness keep going on strong? Is there not one word that we could use that would not grieve the Lesbians, and if not, why the hell not?

I guess I am just one tired Homo. What I am tired of is the inner divisions that we have in our community, over WORDS????? Please give us all a break next year.

Gary Allen Johnson  
San Francisco

## CHORUS COMMAND

★ After ending the parade of conductors of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus yesterday at the Civic Auditorium, it is obvious that no one is in command. Although it is true that founding director Dick Kramer "resigned" after being informed that he had to "try out" for the position he already held, it would be the better part of valor for the chorus, in their collective "democratic" wisdom, to ask Dick to reconsider and to invite him back to take command before the reputation of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus erodes any further.

Lou Perica  
San Francisco

## PARADE FINALE

★ The 1982 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who donated their time, energy, and patience to make this year's Parade a tremendous success.

We would also like to express our deep appreciation to all our Safety and Medical monitors for their extraordinary efforts.

And finally, we wish to express our love for all who came to this year's Parade, making it one of the biggest and best ever. You made it, we did it — again!

Glenn McElhinney & Rick Turner  
1982 Parade Co-Chairs

## PUFFING POUFFS

★ As I was recently sitting at a table in a bar I took notice as to the way most gay men smoke. It was with much disgust and disappointment to see most all the men smoking a la Bette Davis. With their arm bent and hand up by their hair waving their cigarette as they talk. Can't gay men smoke like real people? Is this affectation necessary? Most people (males) smoke with their arm resting on their table by their drink or whatever.

Check it out and get a real laugh!

The Doctor  
San Francisco

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## VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

Let us all look to the second wave of Gay and Lesbian recruits — those who experience their humanity through their Gayness. If any of the veterans come upon such a promising recruit — don't just entice them into your boudoir but lure them into the ranks.

Please, to those on board, whatever the dice game, don't become the new J. Edgar Hoovers.

We all need good police candidates — and proportionate to the numbers of our Gay citizenry, we need good Gay and Lesbian officers.

P. Lorch



# ERA Finale Rally

## Lesbians Respond with Oomph

by Sue Zemel

The night was wet and cold; however, the weather did not dampen the spirit of the crowd of about 5,000 women and men who attended a rally at the Civic Center last Wednesday to reaffirm the commitment to fight for women's rights. As the final "deadline" for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment passed, a slew of speakers, performers, and people who stood huddled together in the drizzle reiterated Susan B. Anthony's assertion that "Failure is impossible."

"Women have become a tremendous community, with an emerging culture of its own and a powerful consciousness," speaker Gwenn Craig, President of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, observed. "It is the power of women's consciousness that is the rock we stand upon to support us. That support will take us through the next decade or however long it takes before equality of rights under the law is a reality."

Despite the fact that 63% of Americans favor ratification of the ERA, first introduced in Congress in 1923, passage of the Amendment was blocked by a handful of legislators in a few key states including Illinois, Florida, and Nevada. According to Kay Tsenin, Vice-President of California N.O.W., a new strategy is currently underway to defeat

those anti-ERA legislators and to help elect pro-ERA candidates in November's elections.

Congress member Philip Burton, one of 100 sponsors of a bill reintroducing the ERA in Congress, told the crowd on Wednesday night that "we're going to send the message to Ronald Reagan that the ERA is not going away, that the women's movement and its allies are not just going to be angry. We're going to organize, register and educate voters, and in November we're going to support our friends and punish our enemies."

I asked several Lesbians present at the entirely women-produced event to reflect upon the role of Lesbians in particular will play in the continuing fight to win equal rights for women.

"The fight for recognition of the contributions Lesbians have made in the women's movement has been a hard one," noted Lesbian Rights Project attorney Donna Hitchens, co-chair of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women. "If we don't have basic equality as women, we'll never have it as Lesbians," she said, noting the need for Lesbians to work for issues such as the ERA. "In return, other groups must speak out for our issues and be there for us when we need them."

"I think we have to tie the ERA more to other women's rights issues such as comparable worth, abortion, Lesbian rights, and prostitutes' rights," activist Priscilla Alexander said.

Lesbian comic and producer Robin Tyler, while ac-



(Photo by Rink)

knowledging the importance of the ERA, also observed that there is a shift in certain organizations toward putting Lesbian and Gay rights on the back burner and pushing for the ERA. "It may take 10 to 15 years to ratify the ERA," stated Tyler. "During the next decade I want to see exactly how much people are going to do for Lesbians, and how much of the chest being raised goes toward Lesbian issues."

Singer Meg Christian observed that for a long time Lesbians doing political work saw the ERA as something that straight women worked on. "As the political climate has grown more anti-everything, many of us have realized that we have to have more of a coalition awareness," said Christian. "As we lend our support in a coalition fashion we need to demand support for Lesbian issues that we have not gotten in the past."

"I don't think we can get away from the abortion issue, the Lesbian rights issue, comparable worth, or any of the crucial controversies by pretending that we can have equality in the abstract," Lesbian lawyer Mary Dunlap said. "Or that we can have an

ERA without nondiscrimination to every group of women. The Right is targeting Lesbians, and we are a vulnerable hook for women who are scared about the ERA and less likely to support it. We have a lot of work to do with women who are afraid of Lesbians."

"The ERA is one of a number of agendas we have to advance," said Community College Board candidate Carole Migden, the first serious Lesbian who is running for city-wide office in San Francisco. "We have to make sure that women are in leadership roles in government so that we are not dependent on other people for the rights we so justly deserve."

Gwenn Craig likewise emphasized the need for Lesbians to get seriously involved in the political process, "whether it's the campaign for ERA II, or to elect women to elective office, rather than rely upon men to make decisions about our lives for us. The demise of the ERA is going to shock a lot of people into the reality that we can't relax. We have to devote our time to organizing and doing something about what's happening. And Lesbians will have to be on the forefront of social change."



ERA's final night in San Francisco — for now... (Photo: Rink)

## New Textbook for Schools

The Human Rights Foundation (HRF) this week announced it has signed an agreement with Irvington Publishers, Inc. of New York to publish and distribute a new publication, *Demystifying Homosexuality: A Teacher's Source Book About Lesbians and Gay Men*.

The book provides curriculum materials as well as in-depth information about homosexuality and the concerns, lifestyles and sexuality of Lesbians and Gay men. It is the culmination of two years of research, writing, testing and evaluation of educational materials to help teachers teach about homosexuality in high schools and colleges.

A preliminary edition of the book, titled *Lesbian and Gay Male Lifestyles and Sexuality*, produced in 1980 with a \$10,000 grant from the Columbia Foundation, was tested extensively in California schools. The new 150 page edition is extensively revised and expanded and is design-

ed to help guidance counselors as well as teachers. It is being produced with a \$16,000 follow-up grant from the Columbia Foundation.

A major part of the source book suggests classroom techniques for teaching about homosexuality. Included are 18 lesson plans — 9 which suggest methods for integrating the subject of homosexuality into an entire family life, human sexuality or social studies curriculum, and 9 which are designed to assist teachers in presenting units which focus on homosexuality.

An informational segment of the book addresses, in a question and answer format, the most commonly held myths and stereotypes about Gay people. A chapter is devoted to each of the following topics: Cause and Definition of Sexual Orientation; Bisexuality and the Kinsey Scale Continuum; Masculinity; Femininity and Sex Roles; Health and Normality; Com-

ing Out; Happiness and Lifestyles; Race, Class, Age, and Disability; Children, Family, and Gay Parents; Religion and Morality; Legal Issues and Civil Liberties; and Lesbian and Gay Male Sexual Behavior.

A team of three consultants collaborated with the Human Rights Foundation in the production of the 23-chapter book: R. Hunter Morey, M.S.W., I.H.S., human sexuality consultant; Nancy Rubin, M.A., educational consultant; and Jane Fletcher, M.A., editorial consultant.

Jose Gomez, the Human Rights Foundation Executive Director, believes that the source book, the only publication of its kind in the United States, "will fill a great educational void." He said that thousands of teachers throughout the country recognize the need to teach about homosexuality in their classes. He added, however, that "most do not do so either because they feel they lack preparation or because they

are uncertain about how to approach the topic."

Gomez claims that some guidance counselors, too, have confided to the Human Rights Foundation that they feel unprepared to help homosexual students who turn to them for advice. He adds, however, that many teachers and counselors do discuss homosexuality with their students. "Too often," Gomez said, "they do so with a prejudiced, if not homophobic, attitude. Even well-intentioned teachers who are inadequately informed may do more harm than good by reinforcing myths and stereotypes."

The Human Rights Foundation views the source book as a significant tool which will not only meet the educational needs of teachers, counselors and students, but also contribute to changes in societal attitudes towards Lesbians and Gay men. Gomez also sees the book as "a major contribution to the ultimate understanding, dignity, and respect for our country's richly diverse communities."

The book is expected to be available in the fall of this year.

## Free Concert in Duboce Park

The Castro Street Fair announced another free community concert at San Francisco's Duboce Park.

Running from Noon until 6pm on Sunday, July 11, the show will feature Chrome Dinette, one of the city's hottest new rock acts. Also scheduled is comedy with the Screaming Memes, and music by Lost Souls, with Robbie Dunbar and Bill Cutler.

Master of Ceremonies for the day is Righteous Raul of Rick and Ruby fame.

Duboce Park is at the corner of Duboce and Noe Sts., on the N-Judah streetcar line. It may also be reached on the J-Church, 8-Market, 22-Fillmore, and 24-Divisadero buses.

Castro Street Fair, Inc. — sponsor of the show — produces the largest community street fair in the United States. Their Duboce Park concerts, they say, are part of a wide program of nonprofit artistic and cultural activities.



## NGTF Hits CBS-TV

*Demands Clarification of Policy and Retraction of Anti-Gay Comments*

The National Gay Task Force last week complained to CBS-TV regarding press accounts of recent changes in the "Cagney & Lacey" TV show. NGTF also requested an immediate clarification of CBS's policy regarding the portrayal of Gay and Lesbian Americans on its network programs.

The June 12-18 issue of TV Guide reported that the show "Cagney & Lacey," a cop show about two women detectives, is being "softened" because the main characters are "not feminine" and that CBS researchers perceived them as "dykes."

Lucia Valeska, Executive Director of NGTF, stated, "If TV Guide's portrayal of current CBS programming practices is accurate, CBS is once again guilty of perpetrating an unseemly and damaging view of both women and Gays. In doing so, it contradicts its own stated internal hiring practices which state that CBS does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. If the TV Guide article misrepresents the CBS case, then CBS ought to come forth with a retraction and public apology."

Valeska noted that there are a number of grounds for objection, including a) the implication that if the characters were Gay, that would be unacceptable to CBS's programs and practices, b) the derogatory use of the words "dyke," "fags," and "homos," and c) the implication that Lesbians are not feminine and that feminine women could not be Gay.

NGTF noted also that this type of offensive treatment is not new, recalling the viciously anti-Gay "Gay Power, Gay Politics" show. Valeska said, "At this time, what is very clear is that CBS has gained and is holding on strong to the distinction of being the most homophobic and anti-female major network."

NGTF has urged concerned citizens to protest to their local CBS affiliate as well as CBS National. At the time of issue of this press release, CBS had not responded to NGTF's complaint. CBS can

be reached at CBS Television Network, 51 W. 52nd Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 975-4321.

★ ★ ★

### THE OFFENSIVE 'TV GUIDE' SCOOP:

**Hollywood** - "Cagney & Lacey," a cop show about two women detectives, is being "softened" because CBS believes the main characters are "too tough, too hard and not feminine." A CBS programmer, who declined to be named, said the first step in renovating the series was to replace actress Meg Foster, whose character in the show was unmarried. No replacement for Foster has been named. "We decided to keep the character who was played by Tyne Daly," said the official, "because she was less threatening."

The CBS programmer said the show was being revised to make the two main characters less aggressive. "They were too harshly women's lib," he said. "The American public doesn't respond to the bra burners, the fighters, the women who insist on calling manhole covers people-hole covers. These women on 'Cagney & Lacey' seemed more intent on fighting the system than doing police work. We perceived them as dykes."

Richard Rosenbloom, the producer of the series, said he was aware that the characters of Cagney and Lacey were too strident. "There were some scenes in which they seemed to be more man than the men," said Rosenbloom. He said that he had to overcome the feeling that two women who worked in a male-dominated profession could be perceived as being Gay. "Two guys, Starsky and Hutch, or Redford and Newman, aren't considered fags or homos," said Rosenbloom. "They are pals, buddies. It's strange, but if it is two women, people say, 'What's going on?' I think that is unfair and unfortunate and had nothing whatsoever to do with the show, but it seems that some of CBS's research picked this up."

## Gay Parade Quakers Pleased

"... a street banner that said WAR IS THE PERVERSION drew some of the largest applause."

*S.F. Chronicle; June 28, 1982*

Marching behind the banner WAR IS THE PERVERSION, a peace contingent organized by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), the War Resisters League (WRL) and Lesbian and Gay Quakers hit a highly responsive chord along the entire route of this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco. "This response demonstrates the deep concern for peace and social justice issues in the Lesbian and Gay communities," stated AFSC's Patrick Delaney.

The American Friends Service Committee is focusing on the connection between peace and social justice issues in its

program work throughout the country and the world. Kim Bancroft, of AFSC's Lesbian and Gay Task Force, said: "Peace is founded on justice for all people. Quakers have traditionally stood up for the dignity and worth of every person and our concern for Lesbian and Gay rights falls within that tradition."

The American Friends Service Committee, a Nobel Peace Prize winning Quaker organization founded in 1917, is a member of the Coalition for Human Rights, the Bay Area's Lesbian and Gay rights "umbrella" organization. "Gays Against the Draft" is an AFSC-affiliated project.



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# LETTERS

## BATHHOUSE HEIST

★ On (Tuesday) June 22, 1982, at about 10:00 pm, I went with my roommate and a friend to the Liberty Baths at 1157 Post Street. I have patronized this place for about four years. However, on the night in question, I was a victim of a very questionable (possibly dishonest) action by the young attendant on duty. While checking in, I turned in my wallet containing my official ID, Medi-Cal papers, Social Security card, plus \$86 in cash. The attendant put my personal property in locked metal box numbered 339.

At approximately 12:10 am, when ready to check out and go home, the attendant who checked me in handed me the metal box, and to my horror, I discovered it was completely empty. In the presence of my roommate, I questioned the rude attendant about the disappearance of my wallet and its valuables. In a very sarcastic manner, the attendant "denied having any knowledge about the disappearance of my wallet." My roommate and I left the Liberty Baths, feeling very distressed and annoyed about the incident. Not to mention outraged and very disconcerted.

The next day, at about 11:00 am, I phoned the manager of the Liberty Baths, a Mr. King, and informed him of the incident. Mr. King then explained that only he has access to all the metal safety boxes, for he has the only master key and could not explain the disappearance of my wallet or the negligence on the part of the attendant.

I then went on to inform Mr. King of my four-year patronage of the Liberty Baths, and that I have always been on my best behavior while attending this bathhouse. I don't take drugs, nor smoke, nor drink booze. I feel this incident most appalling, most unfair, and a great injustice and disservice to me and my roommate after four years of our patronizing the Liberty Baths. Please note that none of its employees are bonded.

I hope that this letter serves as a warning to all of my other gay brothers before they decide to check their money and valuables when entering the Liberty Baths at 1157 Post Street in San Francisco.

Name Withheld on Request  
San Francisco

## GAY DISABLED

★ Re: Article by Sam Picciotto

I remember many years ago, after I had had my first sexual encounter with a disabled gay man, telling an able-bodied friend — his disgust and disbelief really hurt and shocked me.

The disabled man was a brilliant Berkeley student in a wheelchair. I remember, particularly, the silent, warm understanding that passed between us after our sexual encounter. It was one of the most special smiles I have known. Your article by Sam Picciotto is long overdue in the gay community.

I commend B.A.R. for possibly opening some long overdue dialogue between the disabled and able-bodied. Yes, it is important that first the disabled feel good about themselves (i.e. Sam's group at Operation Concern), but the next step in involvement has to be the reaction of the rest of the world toward them, regardless of the severity of their disability. Maybe a new communication can begin between the two groups. It might even bring some heart into able-bodied gay men like my friend who was so disgusted.

Thank you, B.A.R.; please continue to support this effort in your press.

Larry Negri  
San Francisco

## CEASE THE SALVO

★ I would like to say enough is enough. CUAV-UNITED 1 — when will all the crap end? I love reading the B.A.R. letters, but I am becoming extremely tired of the tribal tirades of the anti-violence folks. What do you think about holding a boxing match at 18th and Castro and settling this unending dispute? We might as well push this to its absurd extremes. If there is a split as it seems — so be it! Believe the statistics — there's enough ugly violence to deal with by more than one group. Instead of fighting with each other, isn't it possible to have several groups handling the rise of homophobic violence? Enough of the sore loser syndrome — Bob Smith, Dick Stiegel, etc. Stop the nonsense and let CUAV go about the business they were funded to do by the taxpayers of this city.

Also, to the folks at B.A.R., I am sure that the community would appreciate a cease fire of printed matter on this subject. It really is getting very tired.

Ernie Dians  
San Francisco

## PARENTS PLEASED

★ Parents and Friends of Gays would like to take this time to thank you for printing our press release and thereby helping us publicize our recent fundraiser.

We are happy to say it turned out very successfully for all concerned — we had great attendance, for the showing of "The Gay Freedom Day Parade: A Film History."

Dorothy Abrahamson  
Co-Chairman, PFG

## MARRED MUSIC

★ All we read is praise for the Gay Annual Music Celebration. When we can tell the truth in the media we can begin to work on gay pride. I was embarrassed to hear many flat sour notes from the one time great band. We were issued tickets with area, seat, and row numbers; when we arrived no one cared or seemed to know how and where we were to be seated. They blamed it on Ticketron printing the tickets incorrectly. There were many confused and angry gays yelling at each other because of poor seating arrangements and different information coming from each person you asked on the committee. I loved the Gay Men's Chorus at Davies Hall, but if I would have known we would hear a repeat performance of that concert I would not have paid another \$10. Last but not least, it was obvious that no one went to the balcony to check out if anyone would be able to hear without additional speakers being installed; how I know this is after trying to find our seats, we became upset and sat in the balcony. What is this? Gay rip-off or our new Gay Pride. Next time we should stay home.

Walter Stark  
San Francisco

P.S. I helped with the first and second Gay Parade plans; we had not much quantity, but we had quality.

ED. NOTE: The music people have apologized.

P. Lorch

## ON THE PARADE AND DYING

★ My stepson, David Freeman, has suggested that if I want to write a letter expressing my feelings about the parade of last Sunday and Darryl Anderson's death, you would be a likely recipient, because I do want to.

David is gay and active in the community; he was invited to ride on the I-Beam float and extended the invitation to me and to his bisexual sister, who was also in town for the weekend celebration. She declined; I accepted and had a wonderful experience and a tremendous time. I had never been to the parade before, never taken part in the weekend before, never been to the Gay Ladies Dance as his sister and I did this year, and it was all wonderful — so much energy, and acceptance, and love going on everywhere, and I felt myself particularly surrounded by love and protectiveness and being held in cherishment by those around me after David introduced me as his mom.

So, we were on the float when the young man died, and being on the other side of the float, had no idea what was happening, why we stopped, why we were all ordered off the float before the ending, and then to find out what happened stunned us all with terrible shock and put a definite chill on the rest of the day and the other festivities we attended.

But later, thinking back on it, the tragedy of a young person dying got itself a little better into perspective, and in the context of all that energy and love and acceptance, it feels like a wonderful way to go — not the means, but the context, forms a beautiful mosaic of requiem, peace, love, acceptance, a poignant point to the occasion, his life, and his death.

Thank you all for giving me such a wonderful time on every occasion I've been among you; I'll see you again as often as I can get there, and expect a good time each time. I'll remember him, too, and wish well those of his acquaintance and relationship to find peace after grief.

Betty B. Page  
Palo Alto, CA

## DEFINING GAY AND HOMOSEXUAL

★ Re: 1 July 82 Editorial about Gay cops

Your sentiments criticizing the lack of outreach to Gay men and Lesbians by the recruitment officers of the San Francisco Police Department is justified and timely. Your premises — Gay as opposed to homosexual — are, however, ill-formed at best.

The discussion is based on Michael Denny's fallacious dichotomy contending that "... 'homosexual' is properly an adjective; it describes what you do. 'Gay' is a noun; it names what you are." Both words are adjectives — that means that they both describe what you are. In ellipsis is the understood subject "person," "man," or "woman."

I contend that the difference (if we must address the subject yet another time) is that those who will only refer to themselves as homosexual allow others to define them (particularly, 19th century German scientists and their successors). "Homosexual" is a clinical term imposed on us by others. Gay people — Gay men and Lesbians — have chosen to define ourselves in our own terms and seek neither the approval of other groups nor their value-laden clinical terms.

Arthur M. Morris, III  
San Francisco



## EVPA Honors Oldtimers

by Konstantin Berland

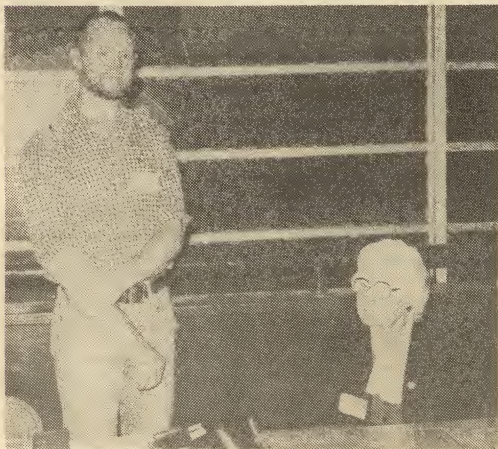
Elsa Strait, 82, was the honored guest at the Eureka Valley Promotion Association's annual potluck dinner last week. The room in which the group usually meets in the Collingwood Recreation Center behind the Castro's Cala Market has been named for her and approved by the city's Park and Recreation Department.

Strait, who retired this year from being the organization's recording secretary for the last 23 years, was introduced by EVPA President Vaughn Taylor as a "living history book."

Strait said she was surprised the Rec & Park approved her name on the

room. "I didn't think the Park & Recreation Commission would allow this to happen," to name something after "people now living and in the community." She added, "My husband would have been very pleased." Her husband has a plaque of his own in the mini-park on Seward Street.

After accepting the applause of the potluckers, some 35 straight and Gay residents of the neighborhood, Strait introduced several other old-timers there at the Rec Center last Wednesday evening, June 16, including former EVPA President (1962-63) Mario Spagno.



Elsa Strait (r), 82, is honored by EVPA's Vaughn Taylor. (Photo: Rink)

Strait and Spagno, who both remember the '06 earthquake, reminisced on some of the great fights and accomplishments of the neighborhood group. Spagno, who had been living where the Arco station is now at Market and Castro when the earthquake hit, talked about the fight the organization waged against a freeway across Twin Peaks.

The group's stationery, he said, "used to make City Hall tremble." Now President Taylor added, "They still listen but they don't tremble. We've got to work on that."

Strait said she joined the organization in 1941 shortly after moving into the neighborhood. Annual dues were 25 cents then and have risen to \$5. Her son, 39 last Saturday (June 19), was born in their house on Grand View.

She spoke of accomplishing mini-parks and planting trees for the neighborhood, and spending "how many hours at the Planning Commission and Board of Permit Appeals" representing the organization.

Spagno talked about hiring the young lawyer of "great ability," Casper Weinberger, now U.S. Secretary of Defense, successfully to fight a 104-unit apartment complex developers tried to put in on Corbett.

In new business, EVPA voted to endorse a new housing project, condominiums on the vacant lots at the end of Eureka on 17th Street, provided the planners restore two existing Victorians on the site, reduced the proposed total square footage and height of the complex by 50%, and allowed 1 1/2 parking spaces per unit.

### Oklahoma Discrimination

## NGTF Appeals Anti-Gay Ruling

The National Gay Task Force will appeal a recent Oklahoma court's refusal to overturn a law allowing school boards to deny employment to homosexual teachers or others who support Gay civil rights.

"Keeping this discriminatory law on the books is an outrageous denial of several constitutional rights," said Lucia Valeska, Executive Director of NGTF, plaintiffs in the class action suit filed in 1980. "We are confident an appeal will be successful."

In his June 29 decision upholding the law, known as the Helms Bill, U.S. District Judge Luther Eubanks rejected NGTF's argument that such restrictions on teachers violate their federally protected rights to freedom of speech and association as well as privacy.

The court's opinion declares "public homosexual conduct would cause a substantial and material disruption of school activities."

While agreeing with the court's recognition of the government's interest in regulating standards for teachers, ACLU attorney and NGTF Board Member Bill Rogers, who along with Gay Rights Advocates represented NGTF, criticized that part of the decision which "equates a teacher's homosexuality with disruption of the school's operation."

Rogers said the decision also fails to protect a teacher's private homosexual conduct.

He noted, however, that Judge Eubanks warned school boards that denying employment to a teacher solely for advocating Gay

rights might not pass a constitutional muster.

Jean O'Leary, GRA Executive Director, said the Helms Bill, which was passed in 1978, created a "chilling effect" on the freedom of all teachers, whether homosexual or not.

GRA's Legal Director, Leonard Graff, said, "We are committed to an appeal to the Tenth Circuit because this law is also vague and overbroad — it does not adequately define 'homosexual conduct.'"

"It is now doubtful that a teacher in Oklahoma who says 'I am Gay' can keep his or her job," Graff said.

Valeska added, "There is a silver lining to this cloud: Our success on appeal will provide a precedent with greater effect than had we won at the lowest federal court level."

## Doctoral Student to Teach at MCC-SF

Mr. John Feagan, a Ph.D. candidate at Berkeley's Graduate Theological Union, will be teaching "20th Century Christianity: Where Did It Come From and Where Is It Going?" at MCC's Castro congregation. The course will run for seven Sundays beginning July 18 and ending on August 29. Classes will start promptly at 9am at the church at 150 Eureka, 3 blocks west of Castro St. between 18th and 19th Sts. There is no charge for

the course and the public is invited to attend.

Feagan says of the course, "We are going to teach the course for folks with little or no background in theology. We'll spend some of our first few sessions in a quick look at classic Christian theology, but the bulk of our work will be in 20th century Protestant thought and contemporary issues like Fundamentalism, Neo-Orthodoxy, the Social Gospel and others."

The course will be based on the text *A Layperson's Guide to Protestant Theology* by William E. Hordern.

John Feagan, an Oakland resident, graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from Golden Gate Baptist Seminary in 1978 and in April of 1982 entered the Ph.D. program at the G.T.U. in their Area I: Biblical Studies. Feagan became a member of MCC-SF on Easter Sunday 1982.



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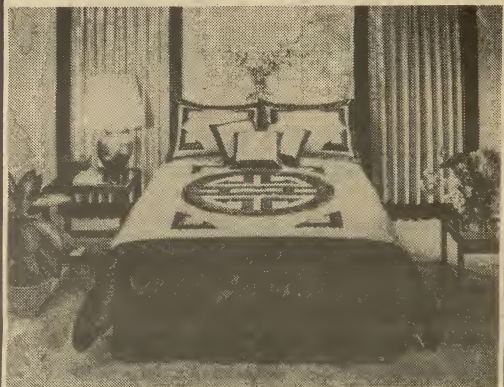
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## Strangling Family Ties

Remember Arthur Kopit's play, *Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mama's Hung You In The Closet And I'm Feeling So Sad*? Gay columnist Mitzel, writing in Philadelphia's *Gay News*, took a sarcastic look at the bonding which occurs between Gay men and their mothers. Not willing to stop at the theory of domineering mothers and weak fathers, Mitzel went into a lengthy diatribe against those Gay men who give up their Gayness to move in with their mothers upon the death of their fathers. While the mother tidies up after sonny and gives him the royal princess treatment, Mitzel alleges that a severe case of emasculation is what results. His own predicament was a bit different;

"When Mother decided to take violent action against my being queer, she went down

to the office of the sheriff of Hamilton County, declared me legally insane in Ohio (and a threat to the very same) and signed over all custodial rights to the sheriff and his boys. The sheriff and his boys followed me one day until I entered a phone booth, at which point they made an attack, forced me to the floor of the phone booth, handcuffed me, threw me in a 'mad wagon' and crated me off to a shock hospital where I was pumped full of 'therapeutic drugs' for weeks. Being a queen, I had to have my revenge. Some time later, after I was released, I visited my Ma while she was taking her afternoon nap. I gingerly sprinkled lighter fluid about the house and put a match to it. Alas, the lighter fluid wasn't what it used to be and all Mom got was a scare."

## Culture Shock

Gays in Kansas City, Missouri, are concerned this time not with getting busted, but with getting bussed. The American Civil Liberties Union has filed suit against the Area Transportation authority on behalf of the Gay Organized Alliance for Liberation, Inc. (GOAL, Inc.). The problem? ATA refused to sell advertising space on their buses to the Gay group because of their fears of a possible controversy. The ATA claims to accept advertisements which are of interest to (and acceptable to) the entire community. Boston's *Gay Community News* indicates that the suit will be heard soon in Federal District Court.

Meanwhile, Gays scored a major triumph in the uptight estates of Pasadena last month. With 38 choruses ranging from elementary school, university and community level performing at the Pasadena Civic Center in

competition, Los Angeles' Gay Men's Chorus placed third in their category in the Johnny Mann's Great American Choral Festival. The *San Diego Update* claims this makes them Southern California's primo men's chorus. The L.A. Gay Men's chorus was the only concert style chorus to place in its category and the only men's chorus to place in the festival.

"Let's hope that our brother and sister Gay choruses will also compete and win. But in any event, we have made a significant statement to the choral world on behalf of the Gay arts movement," stated the chorus' business manager, Chris Spanos.

In the summer of 1983 the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus plans to participate in a festival of choruses in New York City.

## Gay Olympics Volunteers

The Gay Olympics Statistics Committee is looking for volunteers to act as scorekeepers for the various events during the Gay Olympics, August 28 to September 5. You can pick the events you are interested in covering.

No special skills are re-

quired and scorekeepers will get to see the events from a close vantage point. Orientation and training will be provided.

For more information call Ralph Stephan at 431-4192 or the Gay Olympics office at 861-8282.



Solidarity — the confrontation club — shows its wares at the Gay Day Celebration. (Photo: Rink)

## Lesbian Capital of the World?

In a recent interview with the *Hollywood Reporter* former White House aide John Ehrlichman described Santa Fe, New Mexico, as the Lesbian capital of the nation. Ehrlichman, who moved to Santa Fe after being released from jail, claimed that he and his wife have become friends with many Gay women since settling in New Mexico and have come to count them as their friends.

Meanwhile, Boston's *Gay Community News* reports that one of the nation's most visible Lesbians, Elaine Noble, spent five hours testifying before a Federal grand jury about her role in the case of John M. Williams, a former city official who is serving a three-year sentence for attempting to extort \$50,000 from a prospective real estate developer, Anthony D'Alesandro.

D'Alesandro alleged that when he told Ms. Noble of Williams' request for a payoff she replied, "Why do business with princes when you can deal with kings?" Noble claimed that they were both talking in extremely Gay, campy talk at the time and that whatever she said in that context was being completely misquoted in the context of the federal inquest. D'Alesandro (also Gay) claims to have recorded the conversation with Noble using a hidden device supplied to him by federal investigators. Who's framing whom?

## Sheriff's Dept. Needs Volunteers

San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey announced last week that the Sheriff's Department is looking for volunteers to work inside the county jails. Volunteer teachers, counselors and job developers are needed to work with prisoners soon to be released back into the community.

If you are retired or have time during the working day, and have some basic skills to offer, you can become a Sheriff's Department volunteer. For further information, call 558-2411.

Hennessey said, "Volunteering plays a crucial role in this post-Proposition 13 era. Many positions that were funded at one time simply no longer exist — volunteers can fill this void. Volunteering can be an exhilarating and rewarding experience."

## Gay Seniors' Tea Dance

In the tradition of its highly popular Seniors' Christmas party, the Golden Gate Business Association is presenting its first Gay Seniors' Tea Dance on Sunday, July 25, from 2 to 5pm. The dance theme is "40's Swing" with period dress encouraged.

The dance will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush at Gough Street, San Francisco.



# QUICKIES!

## Banquet for Orange County MCC

Former professional football running back David Kopay will speak July 11 at a banquet welcoming a new pastor to Christ Chapel Metropolitan Community Church.

The Rev. D. Dennis Chappell is to be installed in a festival worship service set for 2pm, July 11 in First Presbyterian Church at 601 N. Sycamore in Santa Ana.

Kopay will speak at the 6pm banquet in the Sky Room of the Grand Hotel, Anaheim. He will discuss his ten-year career in the National Football League and the impact of his 1975 decision to publicly reveal his sexual preference for men.

Kopay was the first professional athlete to open-

ly discuss his sexual preference and he co-authored a book about his search for sexual identity — *The David Kopay Story*.

Entertainment at the banquet will be provided by a San Diego group, Daybreak, led by Terry Wheeler and the Irvine Folk Quartet led by George Leidal.

Rev. Chappell, 33, comes to Christ Chapel from Jacksonville, Florida, where he served as pastor since 1980.

The Rev. David Farrell of MCC San Diego will be the installing pastor at the 2pm service.

The Rev. Jeri Harvey, Elder of the Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and pastor of

MCC Los Angeles, will speak.

A massed choir of 80 voices drawn from MCC churches in Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego, and Santa Ana will perform under the direction of Christ Chapel Deacon John Lasher.

Rev. Chappell is a native of Chula Vista, California, and was graduated from Wartburg Lutheran College, Waverly, Iowa, in 1972. He served MCC in San Diego in lay positions for five years prior to becoming assistant pastor of MCC in Los Angeles in 1978. He fills the vacancy left by the Rev. Rodger Harrison, who resigned after more than 11 years of service to Christ Chapel.

## McQuaid Likes Parade

Dennis McQuaid, candidate for the Sixth Congressional District, congratulated the organizers and participants of Sunday's successful Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade.

"The Gay and Lesbian communities have made great strides against discrimination over the past decade. Yesterday's parade reaffirms those accomplishments and opens the way for more gains in equal treatment," McQuaid said.

McQuaid was pleased to see a widely diverse crowd participating in and attending the event. He noted that people from around the world, and from every social and ethnic group, were present at the Freedom Day Parade.

McQuaid expressed support for the leaders of the Gay and Lesbian community in their efforts for greater understanding in the community through exposure and education. The Freedom Day Parade is part of this strategy. He said, "The harmony of this year's event demonstrated that these efforts are meeting with great success. I support this process for greater understanding."

## Pre-Training for Firefighter Candidates

The San Francisco Fire Department and the Civil Service College of the San Francisco Community College District recently concluded an effort to recruit firefighter applicants. Consequently, a 24-hour pre-examination training program will be offered to assist applicants in taking the prescribed written examination. It is hoped that the final selection of male and female candidates of diverse ethnic, racial, and sexual orientation backgrounds will have a positive impact on the firefighter work force.

Dr. Farhad Samii, Director of the Civil Service College of the San Francisco Community College District, explained that the pre-examination training emphasizes four areas: test-taking techniques, mechanical aptitude, reading of charts and graphs and basic mathematics, and reading comprehension. Dr. Samii has arranged 48 training classes, offered four hours per week, during the six weeks from July 6 to August 13 at eight locations throughout San Francisco.

## Books for Book Sale

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Library Project is seeking donations of books for its book sale at this year's Castro Street Fair. Project organizers need to raise funds to continue the library's search for a permanent home. Books for the sale need not be restricted to Lesbian/Gay topics. All subjects, fiction or nonfiction, are welcome.

To arrange for delivery or pick-up, call 861-3078. The Castro Street Fair is to be held on Sunday, August 15.

## U.U. Gay & Lesbian Caucus Discussion Rap Group

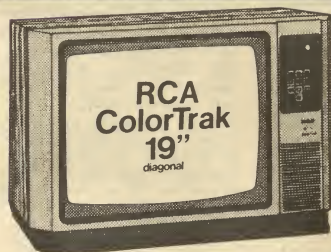
A conversation group where your opinion is regarded and considered on subjects spanning the social to the philosophical realities of today. (We learn from one another, so let's get together.)

The meeting is open to all, whether Gay, Lesbian, or straight. Wednesday at 7:30pm in the Murdock Room at the First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary.

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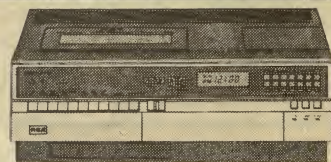
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- Electronic programmer can be preset to record 8 different TV shows on different channels—up to 14 days in advance.
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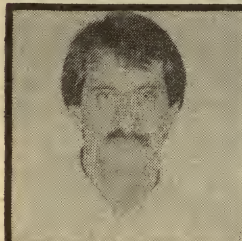
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## South Bay's Anti-Gay Evangelicals Open Up

by David Treadwell

San Jose's Concerned Citizens, the group started in 1979 with the sole purpose of opposing Gay rights, became a major campaign issue in the recent race for San Jose Mayor. The winner, Tom McEnery was attacked repeatedly by Concerned Citizens, who backed Claude Fletcher, a born-again Christian.

The current head of Concerned Citizens is the Rev. Clifford Harris, the pastor of a local Baptist Church. Other than Harris, Steve Perry serves as treasurer and former city councilman David Runyon serves as political advisor. The group's membership is a complete mystery. Harris has refused to discuss the group's membership with the *Mercury News* or any other news media.

Harris reported to the *Mercury News* on June 5 that he expected Concerned Citizens to spend "as much as \$40,000 on Fletcher's behalf." Concerned Citizens also contracted with In-House Market Surveys for \$20,000 to conduct 30,000 telephone interviews. Callers told respondents that "Concerned Citizens is strongly opposed to the candidacy of Tom McEnery because of his pro-Gay rights position."

In an effort to learn more about Concerned Citizens, this writer along with Frank O'Reilly, the co-chair of the Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights, paid a visit to Concerned Citizens' headquarters. We were greeted by the Rev. Clifford Harris, a 60-ish aged man with a heavy southern accent and a friendly, outgoing personality. He asked us if we were there to pick up voter guides. We replied that we were. He informed us that they were still at the printers and he was on his way to pick them up and would we like to come along. I replied that we would follow him in our car and I then sent Frank out to my car to quickly remove the "Moral Majority is Neither" bumper sticker.

Rev. Harris met us in the printer's parking lot and insisted we take a bundle of 200 for "our church." He assumed we were Evangelical Christians that supported Claude Fletcher. We decided to say nothing and just let "Cliff" (as he preferred to be

called) just talk, and talk he did. Without asking more than two or three questions the man spent an hour with us telling us about Concerned Citizens, Gays, and his views on local elected officials and candidates. Rev. Harris struck us right off as a man obsessed with Gays and Gay rights. It should be pointed out that Gay rights was never a campaign issue, but Concerned Citizens tried to make it one. Issues such as the budget, growth, jobs, library closings, city layoffs, and roads never entered the conversation. It seemed Rev. Harris' sole basis for supporting someone for public office was that person's religion and their stand on Gay rights in 1980.

Harris bragged excessively about how powerful his group has become. There is some truth to his claims of power, as many "so-called liberals" have sought out their endorsement. Harris talked at great length about county supervisor Rod Diridon. He talked about the attempted recall movement against Diridon in 1980 over the issue of Gay rights. A recall attempt that Harris claims he did not support, as he felt they should recall everyone that favored Gay rights and not single out Diridon. When asked why Diridon was singled out for recall Harris replied, "Oh, he's so smug."

Harris then went on to talk about Concerned Citizens' current relationship with Diridon. He paints a picture of a changed man. He claims to now have Diridon eating out of his hands. He says Diridon called him after the Gay rights defeat in 1980 to apologize for being wrong on Gay rights and asked what he could do to make it up. Diridon now attends several Concerned Citizens functions, and he visits their churches on a regular basis. Harris claimed that Diridon apologizes to him every time he sees him for his stand on Gay rights. Harris was not

able to convince his colleagues to endorse Diridon this year, as he claimed no matter what Diridon does many in Concerned Citizens will never forgive him for his stand on Gay rights.

Mayor Janet Grey Hayes called Harris after the Gay rights defeat and apologized to him for her stand on Gay rights. He claims that she went on and on telling him that homosexuals disgust her, but she thought it was the civil liberties thing to do. Apparently her apology did not work because Harris expressed negative feelings towards her.

Two city councilpeople that supported Gay rights in 1980 are now embraced by Concerned Citizens. The first is Lola Williams, who Harris claims called him right before the election and exclaimed that she had no idea that the Gays wanted to turn this into another San Francisco. She was referring to the anti-Gay campaign slogan of "Don't Let It Spread." She has assured Harris that she would never again vote in favor of a Gay rights bill.

The second councilperson is Jerry Estruth, who is now seeking a seat in the California Assembly. Estruth also assured Harris that "he was wrong about Gay rights and would never vote for Gay rights again." His remarks are especially pertinent, since as an Assemblyman he would more than likely have an opportunity to vote on Gay rights.

One of the biggest mysteries of the 1980 campaign for Gay rights was how the founder of Concerned Citizens, Rick Harrington, a Mormon, worked with Evangelical Christians. The two groups have always disliked one another. Harris cleared that up by saying that they "just used Harrington because he knew all about the Gays and how to fight them." ■

### Illinois Novelty

## Police Roll Calls to Include Gay Issues

Members of the Chicago community will speak to Chicago police officers in six police districts with highly visible Gay populations. The presentations, approximately five to ten minutes in duration, will mark the first time that rank and file Chicago police officers will be directly apprised of homosexual issues by members of the Gay community.

The talks will take place during the officers' "roll-calls." Longer fifty-minute talks are a regular part of the curriculum for recruits at the Chicago Police Training Academy. Christine Riddiough of the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which is coordinating the program, said,

"Perhaps the most significant element of the presentations will be the appearance of Gay people before department officers. Most of the officers probably have never encountered an openly Gay person, certainly not ones who have the backing of the police command structure."

All of each district's roll calls at 7am, 8am, 3pm, 4pm, 11pm and midnight will be covered on the date specified. Each session will be attended by the approximately 30 to 40 officers reporting for work on that particular watch. Presenters will briefly relate contents of a training bulletin recently issued by Supt. Richard J. Brzezczek, titled "The Gays and the Police," and will re-

mind officers of a general order issued by Brzezczek in 1980 prohibiting officers from showing bias or prejudice toward Gay people.

The fact that Gay people are more often victims of crime than perpetrators and that the community wants these crimes stopped will also be emphasized. "We will emphasize that we're not asking for any more or less than any other citizens," said Riddiough.

While she is enthusiastic about the roll call program, Riddiough described the IGLTF as realistic about what can be accomplished in the brief talks with officers. "Prejudices will probably not be stamped out and minds will probably not be changed, but the presentations may begin to alter the actions of some officers when dealing with members of the Gay and Lesbian community."

A Gay man's best friend?  
His whistle.



# Gay Compromise Syndrome: The Battle Widens

by Richard B. Pearce, Ph.D.

More than half a dozen diseases have been added to the list of ailments to strike the middle-aged Gay male. Kaposi's sarcoma and pneumocystis pneumonia are but two of a growing number of so-called "opportunistic diseases" which together have been unofficially dubbed the "Gay Compromise Syndrome."

The cluster of diseases is without precedent in medical history, and is now the focus of an intensive effort by medical researchers who hope to find the common denominator among its victims.

Since first reported last year, Gay-related diseases have stricken more than 320 people from twenty states and seven foreign countries. The current death toll stands at 136, more than that of Legionnaire's disease and Toxic Shock combined.

Dr. James Curran, task force coordinator of Gay-related immuno-deficient diseases (GRIDs) for the Center for Disease Control, recently told a House subcommittee that since July of 1981 CDC has channeled more than \$950,000 into the search for a cause of what appears to be vastly different diseases.

Gay Compromise Syndrome has come to include rare lymphomas, carcinomas of the tongue and rectum, Hodgkins disease, persistent swelling of the lymph nodes, several gastrointestinal diseases and cryptosporidiosis, a protozoal disease previously found only in animals.

The National Cancer Institute announced last month that they will make available \$250,000 to researchers studying the causes and treatments of GRIDs.

Basic research will undoubtedly focus on the reasons why healthy Gay men are falling ill to diseases that normally strike only the feeble or the severely immunologically depressed.

Medical researchers have had to assume that something peculiar to city-dwelling Gay men predisposes them to immuno-depression. The immune system is the body's main line of defense against invading organisms and nascent tumors. Depression of the immune system enables most diseases to flourish. But what causes the immune system to collapse?

Receiving wide attention as a possible immunosuppressant are the various brands of amyl and butyl nitrite aka "poppers." A National Cancer Institute research team headed by Dr. James Goedert recently reported in the medical journal *Lancet* that seven of eight homosexuals who claimed to be frequent users of amyl nitrite suffered from significant immunosuppression. In contrast, infrequent

users of the inhalant were not found to be immunologically compromised. Other researchers, however, have found no consistent association between the use of amyl nitrite and immunosuppression or any of the Gay-related diseases so far identified.

UCLA researcher Dr. Michael Gottlieb suspects that cytomegalovirus, a cousin to the herpes virus, may be involved in immunosuppression. Says Gottlieb, "Though it is also seen in heterosexual men and women, CMV is almost universal among sexually active Gay men." Gottlieb also admits, however, that CMV may be just another opportunistic infection taking advantage of an immuno-compromised host.

CMV infections are known to induce transient immune dysfunction, and scientists suspect that sequential infections may lead to immunological incompetence. Some evidence that Gay Compromise Syndrome is infectious comes from a report by San Francisco physician Dr. Selma Dritz, assistant director of the Bureau of Disease Control and Adult Health. Dr. Dritz has documented one case of oral squamous cell carcinoma in a male whose sex partner had Kaposi's sarcoma.

Other researchers blame neither drugs nor a specific pathogenic agent for immunosuppression. Two New York physicians suggest that semen is the culprit. Writing in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the pair note that "Human seminal plasma has been shown to contain factors that are potent immunosuppressors." They claim that sperm can gain access to the bloodstream during anal intercourse, passing through the delicate rectal mucosa into the underlying connective tissue and ultimately entering capillaries. The doctors call semen an "antigenic nightmare" with which the body's immune system might not be able to cope. Repeated exposure could lead to a reaction akin to graft rejection, they say, with the host losing the battle.

In Connecticut, Dr. Hans Neumann of that state's de-

partment of health speculates that use of topical steroidal skin creams might cause the immunosuppression seen in Gays. Neumann points out that over-the-counter skin creams containing hydrocortisone appeared on the market shortly before GRIDs were reported. Cortisone is known to be a powerful immunosuppressant hormone — cancer researchers have been using it for years in order to get laboratory animals to "accept" tumors. What makes the use of skin creams of possible relevance to Gays, says Neumann, is the manufacturer's suggestion that their products are helpful for skin irritations for the anal and genital areas. "The thin stretched penile skin is particularly suited for absorption of the hormone," warns Dr. Neumann who also asserts that the concentration of hydrocortisone in the non-prescription creams is "too high."

Still another explanation of immunological dysfunction in Gay men has been offered by New York internist Daniel Williams who argues that sequential or concurrent infections common to the Gay community can paralyze the immune system. Gonorrhea, syphilis, herpes, hepatitis, CMV, shigella and other enteric infections may simply overwhelm the immune system. "If I'm right," said Dr. Williams recently, "we're only seeing the tip of the iceberg."

Efforts to pinpoint the causes of immunological incompetence among Gay men is continuing on many fronts. Though the medical establishment may not be entirely in sympathy with the plight of Gays, they are charged with an intense academic interest in finding the causes of what, for many, has become the greatest medical challenge to ever face medical researchers. Referring to the slow start by government agencies to confront the disease, Representative Henry Waxman of California told officials recently, "There is no doubt in my mind that had the diseases appeared among Americans of Norwegian descent or among tennis players rather than Gay men, the responses would have been different."

weapons. When Thompson asked what the Colonel thought of the British, Solis replied that Argentinian troops exploring the British marine base at Port Stanley had discovered a room "with all kinds of immoral photographs" and "some objects that suggested homosexuality." *Village Voice* columnist Alexander Cockburn noted, "In the first World War, the British were always insisting the German officer corps was rife with sodomy. Now Colonel Solis (plainly a fan of a subsequent generation of Germans) has turned the tables." Solis had also described the invention of a poison gas by "Dr. Weissman, a Jew."

## Brazil and Argentina

# More Trouble in South America

Increased police pressure has resulted in the demise of one of Latin America's few Gay publications. The *Jornal do Homo/Pleigui* bit the dust after news vendors in Rio de Janeiro refused to continue selling the magazine on their stands. Massive police raids on newsstands in the Brazilian city were undertaken as part of a campaign against pornography announced over television by President Joao Figueiredo.

On March 26, 1982, in order to avoid further raids, the news vendors union announced that its members

would no longer sell publications which the government had classified as pornographic to save their members from "great insecurity and humiliation."

Meanwhile, down in the South Atlantic, news of fag-bashing in the Falklands has begun to reach American shores. In a dispatch from Comodoro Rivadavia, Argentina, Colonel Esteban Alberto Solis was interviewed by Morris Thompson of *Newsday* telling the reporter that Argentinian troops had been issued gas masks due to the possible use of chemical

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## POLITICS AND POKER



### The New Harry/ Wendy Axis Miffs Progressives

WAYNE FRIDAY

From what we hear, the race for Mayor next year could really become crowded — friends of Dick Hongisto, feeling sure he will be the next Board President, are already speaking of a possible Hongisto run at the Mayor's office; others are saying that Quentin Kopp is itching for another try, and those supposedly in the know are insisting that Appellate Court Justice William Newsom is still seriously thinking of running. Add to this Dianne Feinstein's highly successful fundraising birthday dinner (1400 paid tickets) and we might be in for some real fun next year.

And don't plan your parties yet for the 1984 Demo presidential convention here in San Francisco. Even though the delegates to the mid-term mini convention in Philadelphia last week were excited by the possibility of a national convention in the Bay Area (especially the new National Association of Lesbian and Gay Demo Club members) some say that the Mayor and her top advisers are cool to the idea, and the more conservative Demo party leaders aren't at all excited by the idea of their party convention being held in the "Gay capital of the world."

Persistent rumors that the current cocaine scandal under investigation in D.C. centers on six to eight Congressmembers, including two from California, has the California politicians guessing, and everybody has their own ideas who the two California members are.



Nancy Walker, the progressives' big question mark in November, is throwing a \$100 birthday party.

Friends and supporters of unsuccessful congressional candidate Louise Renne will hold a party at the Hyatt Regency on August 5 to help pay off her huge campaign debt (5:30pm, \$125 per, 929-1417 for info) . . . and invitations to Nancy Walker's birthday party/fundraiser claim that "A Nancy Walker Birthday Party is No Ordinary Occasion" (at \$100 a person I guess it is indeed no "ordinary party") Tuesday, July 20 at the Ben Jonson Restaurant at The Cannery; 5:30-8:30pm; 564-6207 for info . . . and if you haven't already spent enough for parties (fundraisers) by this time, you can take your pick of either a cheapie (?) \$30 "picnic" from 5:30-7:30 for San Jose Assemblyman John Vasconcellos at the home of Nancy & Paul Pelosi on July 15, or if you want

really help the San Jose Assemblyman you can take in a "real nice clambake" the same night at the home of Dick Sklar starting at 7:30 for a mere \$250 per person (you can call 391-8200 for tickets to either).

One hot D.C. rumor has Reagan retiring after his first term and Alexander Haig jumping the ship early to set up mechanics to take on George Bush for the GOP nomination in '84.

Roxanne Conlin, a 37 year old Democrat, became the first woman in Iowa's history to win a major party's nomination for Governor; she will face GOP Lt. Governor Terry Branstad in the November election . . . for whatever it is worth, Governor Jerry Brown last week endorsed Alan Cranston for the 1984 presidential nomination; Cranston, meanwhile, impressed few and caused little excitement at last week's Democratic mid-term convention in Philadelphia where Ted Kennedy was definitely the favorite . . . the California chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus endorsed Republican Carol Hallet for Lt. Governor (the caucus does not endorse men for statewide offices). Hallet gratefully accepted the endorsement and later told reporters that she did not support extending the deadline for ratification of ERA or state funding for abortions, two favorite causes of the feminist group. The caucus, upon hearing of Hallet's remarks, quietly withdrew its endorsement. Incidentally, John Vernon, the Libertarian candidate for Lt. Governor and the only up-front Gay to be nominated for statewide office, is reportedly picking up important endorsements.

Strange bedfellows? Supervisor Harry Britt in his Bay Area Reporter column last week called conservative Supe Wendy Nelder "one of my best friends" and some of Harry's progressive supporters are howling, and Britt's praise of Quentin Kopp is really surprising (come on, Harry — tolerance, yes; but glorification, no!).



Wendy Nelder — over whom Harry Britt's suddenly strong friendship progressives are howling and howling. (Photo: Rink)

Phil Burton and Milton Marks both well received in the Gay Freedom Day Parade . . . the Associated Press ran a photo last week in newspapers across the country showing Anita Bryant dancing in an Atlanta disco with the Rev. Russ McCraw, a national evangelist who "ministers to the Gay community;" the last time the Bigot Bryant was photographed dancing was the night she gladly danced the jig, Hitler-fashion, for the press upon learning she and her fascist friends had defeated a Gay rights ordinance in Dade County, Fla., and all in the name of Christianity (the Reverend McCraw ministers to the Gay community???)

Richard Viguerie, the right-wing computer genius whose fundraising letters to millions of conservatives bankroll the New Right, and who once sent out millions of letters warning of the homosexual threat to the nation, now says that "I think a strong case can be made that Jesus was a conservative" (well, if Anita Bryant has turned to disco, I guess anything is possible) . . .



Joel Wachs, L.A. City Council President, announces large grant to shelter Gay transients. (Photo: Rink)

Board of Education member Bill Maher will formally kick off his campaign for the Board of Supes at a party next Wednesday at the Electric Underground in the Bank of America Center . . . Tom Bradley and George Deukmejian, both going after the law-and-order vote, held separate press conferences in Sacramento and accused each other of not being tough enough on crime . . . from the shoe-is-on-the-other-foot department: in a decision reaffirming and broadening its rules against sex discrimination, the Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 last week that the century-old, all-female Mississippi University for Women violated the Constitution by refusing to admit a male student to its nursing school.

Even with speakers of the caliber of Ted Kennedy and Walter Mondale, the loudest cheers at last week's annual convention of the NAACP held in Boston went to Senator Lowell Weicker of Connecticut, a Republican . . . you can't have it both ways — Jane Fonda, on a tour of Israel and Israeli-occupied Lebanon with her husband, Assembly candidate Tom Hayden, and on what has to be considered a publicity-grabbing tour (lots of Jewish voters in Tom's L.A. district, you know) has complained of being annoyed at the apparently unexpected large number of photographers and reporters following her.

The Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center in L.A. recently received a grant



CRIR didn't march in the parade but had a booth at the celebration. (Photo: Rink)



Bill Maher sees a seat for himself on the 1983 Board of Supervisors. (Photo: Rink)

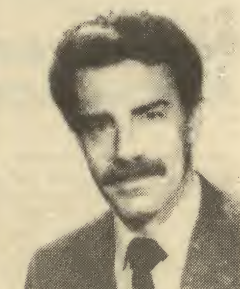


Libertarians' Gay Lt. Governor choice, John Vernon.

Council President Joel Wachs, who was Acting Mayor at the time (when are our elected City Hall "friends" going to deliver something like this in S.F.? — a good start would be with a real Gay Community Center).

Ginny Apuzzo, who herself was a candidate for the New York State Assembly from a district in Brooklyn and is now Executive Director of the Fund for Human Dignity, said recently that openly Gay candidates have three important hurdles to overcome if they are to be successful in running for office in this country: "We have no role models; our community doesn't take its own candidates seriously enough, and the media refuses to look beyond our sexuality, as if that were all that mattered to us. What this movement needs are people of principle who have a certain savvy about politics."

Jim Foster is hosting a reception benefit at his home on July 23 for Gay Rights National Lobby with Dan Bradley and Steve Endean (1952 15th Street, 8:30-11pm, \$25 per) . . . a large number of Gays and Lesbians at the City Hall vigil last week protesting the defeat of the ERA . . . Boston Mayor Kevin White, who is in a very tight re-election fight, has appointed Brian McNaught as his new mayoral liaison to that city's Gay community; as a part of Boston's Gay Pride Week activity White signed an executive order designed to prohibit discrimination by the city on the basis of sexual orientation; although the order applies only to municipal employment and city services, Boston Gays are still working to pass a local ordinance which would prohibit discrimination in the private sector as well.



Libertarians' Gay Lt. Governor choice, John Vernon.

Last week's Supreme Court decision that ruled that the NAACP had the right to establish economic boycotts against corporations who they feel are discriminatory will doubtless have a profound impact in the Gay movement

(Continued on next page)



## FACE TO FACE



### Highrisers Riding Over Us

SUPERVISOR HARRY BRITT

Gay San Francisco, as we know it, will soon be a thing of the past.

The reason is the biggest boom in downtown expansion in history, creating a city of the future very different from anything we know now. San Francisco is to be a corporate headquarters city, the downtown of the Bay Area, a city of luxury housing complexes and high-level jobs.

One of the most dramatic effects of this change will be the disappearance of the bars, baths, and after-hours clubs from the South of Market. North Beach, Polk Gulch, the Tenderloin also will develop in directions inconsistent with the preservation of a strong Gay presence.

Equally devastating will be the destruction of the supply of affordable housing which has made it possible for young Lesbians and Gay men to come here to find a new start and for older people to live out their lives in a supportive environment.

As chair of the Planning, Housing and Development Committee of the Board for the last two years, I've been in a position to learn firsthand from downtown leaders what they have in mind for our city. The decisions have been made; the planning process is well along — and probably irreversible. And none of their plans reflect any awareness of the existence and needs of San Francisco's Lesbians and Gay men.

And why should they? Any Gay person working on

Montgomery Street can verify that there's no "room at the top" for us in San Francisco's corporate world.

But it is precisely these men at the top, the bankers and corporate leaders of the city, who are in control of our city's land-use policy.

Mayor Feinstein has described her relationship with downtown as one of "togetherness." Her record is one of strong support for the Chamber of Commerce's agenda for downtown expansion.

Some of the brightest people in her own administration disagree. Dean Macris, head of City Planning, is very much aware of the need to develop guidelines for the future growth of downtown. PVC Chief Dick Sklar recently expressed his opposition to any more highrise construction at all until the problems created for the Muni are addressed.

Yet there are more than 20 million square feet of new buildings in the works, and no real likelihood of stopping them.

Supervisor Nancy Walker has brought to the Board a proposal to stop further developments until we can assess their impacts on the total city. It's a reasonable idea, consistent with responsible planning practices. But watch the votes on the Board next week if you want to see the political power of downtown San Francisco.

There is some hope. A fighting organization called

San Francisco Tomorrow has for years been trying to see that community interests are represented in planning decisions, and their case is beginning to be heard. Recently I've had several meetings with Lesbians and Gay men willing to develop strategy for our community, particularly to save the South of Market. When the politicians come to us this fall for our support, we will have a chance to ask them to demonstrate a commitment to protect our community's interests against the plans of the developers.

We, of course, don't have any representation on the Planning Commission or the Redevelopment Agency. The Mayor says that's not important. We do have many bright Gay people on the staff of our Planning Department who are great resources.

I'm not optimistic. The basic decisions have already been made — without us. Land values are escalating dramatically, and market forces work strongly against continuing present uses.

It will be a hell of a fight to create a future for the city we love that will still have room for us. We are by no means the only community threatened by what's happening. The elderly in the Tenderloin are considered expendable. Filipinos South of Market are very vulnerable. The people in the Mission know there are changes afoot over which they have no control. Nob Hill has already experienced serious change, and Chinatown sees the wolf at the door. The Western Addition is fighting for its life.

If we are to survive as a city of diverse communities, rather than an enclave for the rich, we really must practice what we preach about working with our neighbors. Gay leadership will be important in our efforts to insist that the political process respond to all of San Francisco's people, not just downtown. ■

## POLITICS/POKER

(Continued from previous page)



San Jose Assemblyman John Vasconcellos has a San Francisco fund-raiser...

as the struggle moves into the 1980's (Howard Wallace should be happy at this decision) ... over 1200 Gay and Lesbian members of Alcoholics Anonymous attended the "Living Sober" convention held at the Hilton Hotel here last weekend.

Dennis McQuaid still seeking to get Barbara Boxer into a debate — because of the "Burtonmandering" of the 6th District, he telegrams, the debate should take place in each of the four counties.

Mayor Feinstein addresses BAPHR at their meeting Friday night, July 9, at the Medical Society Auditorium. BAPHR sees her as no stranger to the medical profession. The Mayor was both the daughter and wife of surgeons. ■

Wayne Friday

## Gay Matings Succeed

### New Housing Trends

Forbes business magazine has noted a trend among real estate developers to exploit the market which caters to single roommates living in unwedded bliss. According to the National Association of Home Builders, singles are forming households at a rate of 700,000 a year — a growth rate which tops the more conventional husband-wife pairings. Since the 1974 Equal Credit Opportunity Act paved the way for unmarried couples to overcome bankers' objections and obtain home mortgages, a vast new housing market has begun to emerge. The Porten Sullivan Corporation, which has constructed over 2,000 units in the nation's capital, specializes in floor plans with a living room between two identical bedroom/bath layouts which permit two singles to share a dwelling space while maintaining separate lives. Porten's housing units are priced between \$50,000 and \$80,000. Similar construction has sprouted in California and Florida.

Meanwhile, a report by the psychotherapists Laud

Humphreys and Brian Miller presented to the annual meeting of the Pacific Sociological Association has claimed less violence between Lesbian and Gay lovers than between heterosexual couples. The report stressed that violence occurs between Gay lovers most often when associated with rigid gender roles and other forms of inequality. "Power divisions such as financial and racial inequality also correlate with couple violence," claimed the researchers, who also stated that jealousy and alcohol use were factors in almost all cases of Gay violence between couples. A fundamental cause for less violence in Gay relationships is the fact that Gay and Lesbian couples are not bound by marriage and/or social pressures and thus can separate more easily than heterosexual couples without resorting to violence. According to Boston's Gay Community News, the study was based on investigations of 242 Lesbian and Gay victims of violence. Six percent of the men and women studied had been attacked by their lovers; the rest were victims of queer-bashings.

## Unitarians' Sunday Series

JULY 11

David Lambie and Greer Price explain how Houston, Texas, got to be the "Gay Mecca of the Southwest." David and Greer were both active in the Houston Gay political movement before coming to live in San Francisco. They will relate how Houston Gays helped elect the city's first pro-Gay woman mayor.

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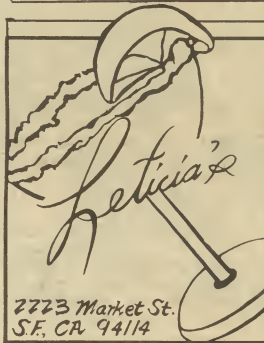
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# Police Re-Raid 'Body Politic'

by Wayne April

Canada's leading Gay newspaper, the monthly *Body Politic*, is in hot water again. Only three weeks before the May 31 trial which finally put to rest the four-year old battle for publishing an article on Man/Boy love, the police raided the paper's office looking for the identity of the author of a recently published article on fistfucking.

On May 12 the Toronto, Ontario, police charged the paper and the nine people who edit it with publishing "obscene written matter." They go to trial sometime this fall.

*Body Politic* emerged victorious from the May 31 trial of the charge of using the mails for transmitting indecent, immoral, and scurrilous material. That charge followed a December 1977 police raid, during which the office was stripped of enough materials to fill 12 large cartons.

The raid was the result of an article published in the December 1977/January 1978 issue entitled "Men Loving Boys Loving Men," which

contained interviews with three pedophiles and with an adult who had a relationship in his youth with a pedophile.

The paper and its officers were acquitted in Provincial Court in February 1979, but the Crown filed an application for appeal with the County Court and it was granted in March 1980. The Crown lost

at this year's May 31 retrial when the judge announced on June 15 that the prosecution had failed to prove the paper's officers had taken part in mailing the December 1977/January 1978 issue of the paper.

The new charges against the paper, which are from a different section of the Criminal Code, are the result of an article entitled "Love with a Very Proper Stranger," which appeared in the April 1982 issue. The article deals with the etiquette of fistfucking.

The paper has spent more than \$80,000 fighting the 1977 charges. Donations to help defray that debt may be made to the Body Politic Free



The original TBP defendants: Gerald Hannon, Ed Jackson, and Ken Popert — charged with the use of the mails for the distribution of immoral, indecent, and scurrilous material (TBP #39) 5 January 78. Once acquitted, 14 February 79, and again on 15 June 82, following the May 31 retrial. (Photo: Bill Loos)

the Press Fund, c/o Harriet Sachs, 111 Richmond St. West, Suite 320, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 3N6.



The Body Politic collective (top and bottom rows): Tim McCaskell, Ken Popert, Roger Spalding, Chris Bearchell (and Kevin Orr, assistant manager of Glad Day Bookshop — charged 21 April 82 with selling obscene material) John Allec, Rich Bebout, Ed Jackson, Gerald Hannon & Stephen MacDonald — charged with publishing obscene written matter 10 May 82. (Photo: Bill Loos)

## RELIGION AND US

### On Saying What You Mean and Meaning What You Say

RICK WEATHERLY

Oh, how lonely and impotent are the words: "But what I meant to say was..."

There I was feeling warm and fuzzy all through, indeed a very California sort of feeling (Can you get behind it?) and trying to express my cherishing of the Castro when I wound up inserting my entire Addidas-clad foot deeply into my own mouth. "Warm and fuzzy" does not promote clear thinking and careful phrasing. I must learn to beware the feeling.

Take the sentence in my last column, "If there is anything nellerly than a Black queen..."

Several close friends have expressed responses well summed up by my spouse's question: "Why would you write something like that when you wouldn't tell that joke about Nancy Reagan without changing 'black cock' to 'horse cock'?"

Why, indeed? Clearly some people did not feel cherished as a result of that effort. I must bear responsibility for having commented in such a way as to seem to be making a racial slur. No one else writes my column. If I give offense where I intended care, it is through my own clumsiness. I really liked "Pecs, Fuchsia Jockstraps, and the Spirit of God." I felt I said some very important things. Unfortunately, I shot the column in the foot by that comment. The crippling of its message I lament almost as much as the offense it has given. So, to the column and to those offended, I offer my sincere apologies. I will try to be more precise and sensitive in the future. I'm sure I can count on at least two people to tell me if I'm not.

At least Mr. Cahill has not, like Mr. Schuette, written me off altogether. Cahill, in the course of his flawlessly constructed and savage misive, raises matters which deserve my response. (Not including his anti-Christian diatribe. That, like all prejudices, is Mr. Cahill's own problem.)

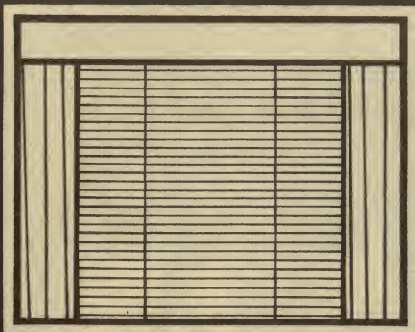
There used to be a time when pseudo-feminine behavior in men (neliness) used to upset me. I think it threatened my sense of gender security or some such wasted anxiety. I did not like being around nelly men, and I especially did not like any element of neliness in myself. I seemed to have been delivered from that fear and loathing. People have a right to be themselves and to not have to deal with my "upset" for being who they are. Folks are just folks and we are all trying the best we can. When I commented on neliness in some Black men, I did so without scorn or rancor. It nonetheless aroused some folks to paroxysms of anger. That anger directed against me for insensitivity on matters of racial language are fully justified. Those who are defensive and angry that I would call Gay Black men (some of them) nelly because they are stuck where I used to be, need that same deliverance I stumbled on.

★ ★ ★

Few issues are more poignant and frustrating for the developing Gay community than our failure to breach our own walls of racial fear and hatred. The Black community and culture, along with all of American culture, abuses its Gay people so badly. Gay and Lesbian Black people have only one recourse, the same one all Gay men and Lesbians have, the solidarity of our own people as a new community. Yet, when Blacks arrive at the door of "Gay freedom," there is someone there asking for three photo ID's. No harsher indictment of our own failure exists than the fact that many Black Lesbians and Gay men choose to identify with their abusive racial community because they can sense no real care or acceptance from those who should be their brothers and sisters.

For copies of the joke about Nancy Reagan, ask your oppressors. I'm gonna be sensitive from now on.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMON

## OAKLAND

### In This Corner, Wearing Tight Pants...

NEZ PAS

Well-known and well-liked Oakland personality, David Montoya, was born in Farmington, New Mexico, in 1931. He has resided in the Bay Area and Oakland for the past 11 years. This area was chosen because his aunt lived here and he stayed with her until he became settled in his own place. His varied background includes: assistant manager for the Colonel's chicken; district manager for H&R Block; money/vault clerk; waiter; bartender at Lake Lounge; and now back to money/vault clerk.

Nez: How and when did you first come out?

David: My first sexual experience with another man was when I was 21. It happened in Castro Valley when I was applying for a job. I was wearing "nicely tight" pants, and the manager seemed to appreciate that and made all the advances . . . and I accepted! I know I was hired because of those pants!

Nez: Does your family, or

the people at your job, know you're Gay?

David: My sisters know and I would suspect that my parents know, but it is never talked about. People at work certainly know, and it makes no difference to them, because I do my job well.

Nez: You're extremely active in Gay functions. How did you get started, and why do you continue to work so hard?

David: I have to admit that I used to be extremely shy and inactive! It wasn't until I started working at the Lake Lounge that I became involved. They were going to have their first drag show, and all the bartenders were to participate, so I said that I would. I have no regrets doing it, and it seemed to snowball from there. It really keeps me busy, and it's a satisfaction personally. I am not a title seeker, so I don't do it for the titles—I do it for the enjoyment I receive. At times it seems to be too much, but

most of the people involved keep me going.

Nez: Is it really worth all the time, headaches, and expenses?

David: Yes, it is! I have met so many totally different types of people. Of course, a lot of no goodies, but for the most part I have met a lot of sincere people both in and out of town. Yes, to me, it is worth it.

Nez: What do you like about yourself?

David: I guess the fact that basically I'm honest. I'm not phoney. I consider myself sincere and loyal to a cause. I don't think I am a work-aholic but I usually have two jobs going at once. Sometimes I find that I don't have enough time to get it all done, but somehow I do get it all done!

Nez: What do you dislike about yourself?

David: I get talked into doing things. I'm easily taken advantage of. I trust people too much at times and I've been burned a lot because of that trust. The burns haven't stopped me from trusting; we all have our faults, don't we?

Nez: Most certainly, to be sure! What do you consider to be the strengths of Oakland's Gay Community?

David: In the active community I would have to say the work committees for functions, events, Oakland float, etc. I seem that all of us became friends first and we remain friends from start to finish of a job. All the work made the friendships stronger . . . yes, that's it . . . friendships tie it all together.

Nez: What do you consider to be the weaknesses, then?

David: There is a lot of back stabbing. There isn't a total togetherness, and I'm not sure why. Maybe it's because of the different life styles. Also, I sense a lot of pretense, both from the involved and the non-involved. Some people in the community have to impress all the time, and it's gone about in the wrong way. By impress I mean with job titles, positions, money . . . that type of thing. Those kings of people don't impress me at all!

Nez: If you were granted three wishes, what would they be?

David: One, a long-lasting relationship. Two, financial security so I could travel, and three . . . to be healthy!

David: Living or dead, who is the person you most respect?

David: That's easy. It has to be my great grandmother. She died at the age of 92! I think she always knew that I was Gay, but she never ever mentioned it. But her very last commend to me was, "Never get married!" She was a very religious Protestant, and I have always respected her for her views. She was the type of person that earned that respect. She didn't smoke . . . and people didn't smoke in her house even though she didn't mind. That's the kind of respect she earned. Too many don't earn it anymore.

Nez: Who is David?

David: I'm shy, nervous, and a bit insecure, happiness-wise. I'm a GIVING PERSON, PERHAPS TOO MUCH. AND I don't expect anything in return. I'm understanding. I take time to forgive. I'm jealous but not envious.

Nez: Jealous of what?

David: Relationships . . . that last!

Nez: If you could change anything about your life so far, what would it be?

David: Nothing! I've learned and grown from all my past experiences. I wouldn't change anything.

Nez: Any final comments?

David: I think we should let people do what they want. We should not criticize so much. It seems as if no matter what a person does, SOMEONE has to criticize! Why can't it be live and let live? That's about it!

Ethel wasn't there to buy me a drink! So I bought my own!

There's still time to guess on clue number nine:

No landmark, yet . . . but give it more time;

What now costs dollars used to be a dime!

An amicable apparition will supply the name;

'Cause the right guess will end this game!

## POTPOURRI (A Mixed Nose?)

Congratulations to Hayward and the Gay Sheriff Float Committee for coming away with the Grand Prize in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. Kudos to all of them who put in the work and bask in the glory.

Congratulations to Oakland's Pompon Cheerleaders for pulling in a Fourth Place honor . . . remember the old saying, "Wait until next year!"

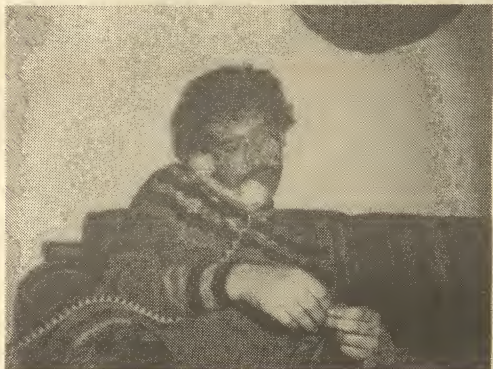
And . . . just how did Little Mother (Berry's) manage to get her picture in the Chronicle? Is she really of star quality???

Sympathies go out to Cha Cha on the death of an uncle. I found out that because of the funeral, Cha Cha was unable to attend the Closet Ball several weeks ago.

Ole! This coming Saturday at the Lake Lounge prepare yourself for a "Fiesta Mexicana!" There will be a full Mexican buffet starting at 7:30pm. And for your festive entertainment, Armando's Hideaway will take center stage at 10pm and 12 midnight. Sounds like an evening of mucho diversion!

On Draft! Continuing with the Lake Lounge, draft beer is now available at 75 cents the

(Continued on next page)



Wheeling and dealing. Oakland's David Montoya.

**CROWN CORNER**

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(Continued from previous page)

glass, \$3.75 the pitcher. Featured on Sundays is a "Beer Bust" with all you can drink by the glass for \$3.50 from 2 to 6pm. Happy Hour from 4 to 8pm, Monday through Saturday, brings the price down to 60 cents the glass, \$3.25 the pitcher. Fresh roasted peanuts in the shell are available... bet you can't eat just one!

#### THE NOSE KNOWS

Congratulations to the East Bay's Jim "Big Mama" McGowan, who has just been elected the new President of the Tavern Guild. Jim owns Big Mama's in Hayward.

The rest of the slate are all San Franciscans, but that's no impediment — they'll all be swell! They are Russ Glenn, owner of the Stallion and Google's on Geary, Vice President; Randy Johnson, well-known bartender-at-large (he works three or four places simultaneously), Secretary, and Jim Bonko of the Kokpit, Treasurer. The Tavern Guild's in fine hands for another year!

In two weeks the tables are turned on yours truly... until then, keep on smiling.

Love,

Nez

## Racism and Sexism

The Gay Life on KSN, 95 FM, will present highlights of a forum, "Racism and Sexism in the Lesbian/Gay Community: You Can Make A Difference," on Sunday, July 11, at 6am.

The forum concentrates on practical ways to deal with racism and sexism.

Speakers include: Ruth Hughes, Black feminist poet; Sukey Durham, Caucasian feminist writer; Paul Dague, Caucasian psychologist; Merle Woo, Asian feminist; John Nieto, Mexican-Jewish social worker; and Karen Bodine, Caucasian writer.

#### HE WHO HESITATES

Life's a banquet they say  
And many poor bastards  
Are starving —  
Says December to May,  
"Ignore all the hazards,  
Start carving!"

by Glenn

#### NOVELTY ACT

by Woolly  
I'd like to find new places  
Where I'd have my choice  
of tricks,  
But it's hard to be "new faces"  
At the age of thirty-six.

## Sacramento Alternative

Our River City Family, Sacramento's social group that has served over 1,000 Lesbian women and Gay men, ushered in its third year with the election of new officers at its June potluck. Newly elected are: Frank Lawler, Director; Diana Netherland, Associate Director; Marty Kurz, Secretary; Paul Shierenberg, Treasurer; and Walt Preston, Historian.

The evening's entertainment was provided by the Capitol City Squares' fancy footwork and by Frank Lawler's vocals, accompanied by Jim Stubbs.

Our River City Family was formed in 1980 as an alternative/supplement to "the bars and the baths." The group has met with unparalleled success; over 1,000 people have participated in its activities since its inception. Monthly potlucks have become the focal point of the Family's activities, but cultural, athletic, and civic events are also sponsored by the group.

Those interested in upcoming Family events should call (916) 485-7960.

## SAN JOSE: FROM THE ROSEGARDEN

### The Parade's Promise

Tom Rogers

Like what I imagine to be true of all good faggots, I threw aside "strong distractions" and made sure that I was at the parade.

It is a truly exciting event... a mega-party San Francisco style that seizes the City's imagination and thrills its only slightly Gay heart.

It's a promise, though, as well as a parade.

The Rally in San Jose the week before was similarly a promise. We as an entity are going to stick around.

Several hundred years of oppressive tactics perpetuated by every asshole freaked by his own combined masculinity/femininity have not wiped out the natural desire for love of our own among homosexuals and they're not going to wipe us out in the future.

That promise carries with it a commitment, however, that further carries with it a responsibility to (at least) enjoy and be proud of the beauty of your love and the energy of your lust.

If you have the time to devote to it, assume responsibilities that will help other Gays similarly enjoy that pride in his or her beauty and energy.

If you are in a position of leadership in the community, radiate the beauty that you would like to see reflected by the community.

Speaking of leadership, the DeFrank Community Center elected its new Board of Directors last week. I don't know all the new members, but among them are Mark Dalton, current Emperor, and near-Center-resident Bob Catano. We hope that the new Board re-secures the support of that important social and political organization that withdrew its support

because of a social mad-on last year. (There will probably be more on that subject later).

Bob Catano would like to talk to anyone who'd like to participate in a leather rap-group at the Center. You can reach him through the Center. (293-2429) (Is that a good way to build a great set of phone numbers or what?)

Has anyone noticed that I'm losing my battle against three-dot journalism?

Empress candidate 'Cherie' suffered moderate fire damage to her apartment last week. The disruption in 'Cherie's' life made a publicity photo session with me impossible before my deadline. She had to move out of her apartment and salvage what she could from the ruins. Mark Dalton gallantly provided 'Cherie' a temporary refuge. (Let it not be said that Casa people don't stick together.) With the Coronation coming up next weekend, this personal tragedy must be making life rough for Cherie.

Choralist (and hot-looking man) Larry Marcus is looking for a few good throats - uh-voices for a possible San Jose choral group. Both males and females will be welcome. If you don't happen to already know Larry, I'll put you in touch with him if you send me a postcard or letter (or phone message) care of this newspaper including your name and phone number or address.

The Interlude is serving almost-nightly inflation fighting dinner specials currently. And those dinners are complimented with the piano stylings of Laura Lee at the piano bar beginning at nine p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. I "discovered" her there last Wednesday night after dinner and loved her. For those of you who haven't been there, the Interlude is a class act here to stay.

### Gay Demos

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club will have a general meeting on Sunday, July 11. A social hour commences at 7pm with the business meeting following after 7:30. The location is 2230 Derby Street, Berkeley; call 849-3983. New members are invited.

### Cheap Steppin'

Does your income bracket leave you out of high-priced disco parties? Try Wednesday and Thursday nights at the Trocadero. Admission is only \$1, and membership is not required. Dance from 10pm to 2am to current new wave, R&B, Rockabilly, and funk classics.



As a benefit for the Gay Olympic Games, Ollie's presents a Country Western Dance Party. Featured in this special tribute to Patsy Cline (which will also include rockabilly hits and more) is the new group Wanted, with Peggy Lang, Nancy Vogl, Suzanne P. Shanbaum, and Karen Ripley. That's Saturday, July 10, at 9pm; admission \$5-\$10, sliding scale. Ollie's is at 41st and Telegraph in Oakland.

(Photo: M. Springer)

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# BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

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## Fest Quest Yields Less Than Best

by Steve Warren

In the time I spent viewing films at the Sixth Annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival — not counting intermissions, speeches, a concert and a panel discussion — I might have seen my three current favorites — **E.T.**, **Diva** and **Gregory's Girl** — five times each.

But the year has 51 other weeks for such things. The only way I know to cover a film festival is by total immersion with a junkie's determination to prove that one can live by film alone.

I'm not of the belief that any Gay image on screen is better than none, which automatically renders most of my views of the festival politically incorrect; but since I sat through the damn thing I deserve to have my say.

Franeline, the nonprofit organization which assembles the yearly festival is giving two cash awards this year — for Best Documentary to **Pink Triangles** and for Best Short to **Ernie and Rose**.

I agree with the documentary citation. **Pink Triangles** does a comprehensive job with a difficult goal, summarizing pro- and anti-Gay attitudes circa 1981 and placing them in historical perspective.

Robert Epstein's work in progress, **Out of Order**, can still go either way. The 18 (out of a planned 60) minutes he showed at the festival was mostly news coverage of events ranging from Harvey Milk's election to the Board of Supervisors through the Briggs initiative to the candlelight march which followed Milk's assassination. So far, so good; but if Epstein carries out his plan to fill the remaining time with interviews, the focus could shift. Too many people have gotten too much mileage from their associations with Harvey already and giving them screen time to "milk" it further won't do Harvey's memory or the general Gay public any good.

Also in the documentary category were the two major offerings in "A Tribute to Iris Films." This feminist company does thoroughly professional work and avoids nudity and four-letter words so their films are all theoretically televisual. We **All Have Our Reasons** is a plug for L.A.'s Alcoholism Center for Women, the only such support facility for Lesbians, at least when the picture was made (1978). It's a rare look at the problem of alcoholism in women, sexuality notwithstanding. In **The Best Interests of the Children**, about custody struggles, is so intent on proving Lesbians are normal mothers that I was as bored as I would be watching any mothers and children interact for nearly an hour. That's not criticism but a tribute to the film's effectiveness. Also from Iris were **Altered Habits** (the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence dancing to Tom Lehrer's "Vatican Rag") and **A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts**, which should forever lay to rest the idea that dykes don't have a sense of humor.

**Joaquin** is a study of a Cuban transvestite in New York. While he has some intelligent things to say, the examples of his drag performances look extremely tacky. It's hard to tell whether the director was making fun of him or just didn't know how to make him look good.

The Canadian feature documentary **P4W — Prison for Women** is a look inside Canada's only federal penitentiary for women. Holly Dale and Janis Cole have found interesting women to focus on; but while they talk about violence and other problems, what we see makes the prison look more like a country club.

The festival's "Best Short," **Ernie and Rose** is certainly a good one. John Huckert's touching story of two older men — one black, one white, both presumably non-Gay — who live together and care for each other. It's very naturalistic until it ends in the same way as **The Marriage of Maria Braun** — which is appropriate, as the festival was dedicated to Braun's director, Rainer Werner Fassbinder, who died earlier in the month.

For me the festival's best film of any length or genre was Victor Mignatti's **Film for Two**, a 31-minute study of two attractive young men trying to build a relationship amid the usual problems of New York life compounded by the fact that one is a student filmmaker who constantly holds a camera on the other. The *cinema verite* look is so natural it's hard to believe "David and Marc" are really actors John Andress and James Misner. **Film for Two** is a multi-layered gem.

Short, subjective looks at other short entries:

**Dadada and Toumanaka's Cave**, Jack Mongovian's animated bathroom jokes are too brief to offend; almost ditto for Karl E. Fischer's amateurish commercial spoof **Luscious Brite**. James Broughton's **Shaman Psalm** is nice to look at and has a good feeling, even if I could not get into the poetry ("Deflate pugnacity, magnify friendliness . . ."). **Nightshift** by A. P. Gonzalez looks as if a still photographer had been given a movie camera and did not know what to do with it. His photo essay of the South of Market area by night shows a lot of transportation and industrial activity and a bit of cruising. SoMa's biggest industry, **Illegal Acts** by Toronto's Moze Mossanen is too long and rambling, but I like some of the convoluted thinking and beautiful scenes of two men dancing that went into this plea for our rights. (Worth quoting in defense of Gays in the classroom: "You can't tell kids the moon is made of green cheese if there is an astronaut standing there.")

**Strider's House** uses a

corny device effectively as a dying writer, long haunted by a Gay affair in his youth, debates autobiographical details with his younger self. The mood of sexual repression is strong and I'd like to see more work by director Clyde Derrick. **David, Montgomery und Ich** starts as a German new wavy look at a tortured young man fighting homosexual impulses, but plays out without making a point.

Of four shorts from "Down Under," two had problems. The artily photographed

cases two more good actresses and promising writer-director Ann Turner as it asks: What possesses two sisters-in-law to overcome Catholic guilt and make love? Perhaps the spirits of dead nuns?

The Super-8 films shown on Saturday afternoon included abstract experiments in creating and/or illustrating music. The best I saw was David Ratjer's **The Mad, Mad World of Stella Slick**, a punk version of **Invasion of the Body Snatchers** in which an "alien" at a family reunion gets everyone into new wave gear.

Thursday night's "Erotic Shorts" were nothing special. Donald Richie's **Boy with Cat** looks like a 50-year-old stag film about a young man trying to masturbate who is interrupted by his cat. Curt McDowell has his cult, but **Loads** and **Ronnie** look amateurish, although the former gets a bit of rhythm going on the way to its climax of climaxes. **The Closet** is a slightly futuristic J/O fantasy about a masseur which uses occa-

a mass audience. The work of Hammer's first ten years shows a generally steady improvement in technique; but her films celebrate the female body and spirit in a manner alienating to men, especially Gay men who are not turned on by naked women. That doesn't mean we can't support Hammer, but we don't have to watch her. (Quite a few women walked out during the show; I stayed to the end.)

Anger had hardly more film to show for a 25-year career, but he had more interesting stories to tell, beginning with how two sailors brought him the film to make **Fireworks** during a 72-hour period when he was 17, while his parents were out of town. He followed this homoerotic fantasy with the French mime film **Rabbit's Moon**, which used more money and less creativity; and **Eaux d'Artifice**, in which a dwarf wanders through Italian Gardens — water has never been photographed so beautifully.

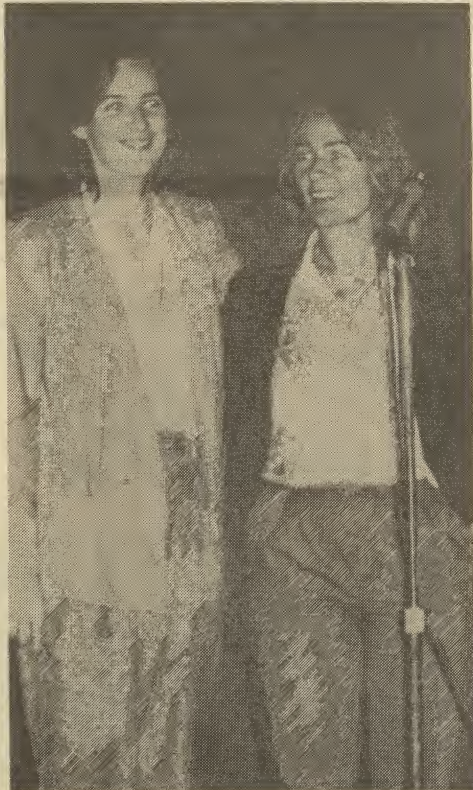
Most of Anger's films are laden with witchcraft, mythology and symbols for both. The best can be enjoyed on other levels as well; **Inauguration of the Pleasure Dome** and **Lucifer Rising**, despite some visual spectacle, cannot. Nor can the psychedelic **Invocation of My Demon Brother**, which has the most irritating soundtrack in cinema history. Among the best of this look back at Anger were **Kustom Kar Kommandos** in which a man erotically polishes his chrome-lined "narcissistic car"; and **Scorpio Rising**, deservedly his most popular, which mixes footage of Brooklyn bikers with scenes from a Hollywood Biblical epic to a soundtrack that sounds like a good Wednesday night at the Stud.

I saved one short for last because I want to compare it to a feature. Cathy Zheutlin's **Lost Love** (which was shown three nights in a row) tells the same story as Alexandra von Grote's **Depart to Arrive**, but tells it with humor in about one-tenth the time. Both are about women trying to get over relationships with other women, dreaming about their lost loves and confiding in friends.

**Depart to Arrive** seems to last 12 hours as it alternates between the heroine's memories and her travels through France on a voyage of self-discovery. We discover nothing about her, even though the camera rarely leaves her tortured face except to pan ever so slowly over the most boring landscapes in Western Europe. There's one love scene in which the otherwise tasteful score switches to a rock Muzak that gives the overall impression of a cheap porn flick. If the women in the audience really liked **Depart** it only shows how starved they are for images they can relate to.

My favorite feature at the festival was about a doctor, married to a woman, who falls in love with a man. Before you jump to conclusions, this is **Making Love** — Nor-

(Continued on next page)



The women who made **DEPART TO ARRIVE**. (Photo: Rink)

**Foolish Things** by Peter Wells of New Zealand had an unintelligible soundtrack (possibly the projectionist's fault). One of three Lesbians films from Australia, Di Drew's **Tread Softly** . . . arrived without its final seven minutes. What we saw was two good actresses playing likable lovers who laugh and cry together in a virtually plotless study of a relationship. **Farewell to Charms** by Carla Pontiac is an interesting, not entirely successful attempt at a gimmicky look at three women's friendship. **Flesh on Glass** is a bit melodramatic but show-

sional humor to break the tension. Anyone who got off on the open heart surgery in **All That Jazz** should certainly see **Robert Having His Nipple Pierced**, which lives up to its title in crude Warhol home movie fashion while a woman on the soundtrack jabbars (sometimes amusingly) about "faggots" and hemorrhoids and things.

Two filmmakers honored by festival retrospectives were Kenneth Anger and Barbara Hammer. Both work from the kind of unique personal vision that only occasionally touches



(Continued from previous page)

wegian style. It's called **Life and Death** and was made prior to its less interesting American counterpart. If nothing else, a downbeat ending should keep it from being successful; but the daring forays into black comedy taken by co-writers (with Carsten Negel) and -directors Svend Wam and Petter Vennerod set **Life and Death** apart from the usual soap opera that this might have been.

The opening night feature, Alla Nazimova in **Salome** is an atrocity, but fun to watch in the Castro for 30 minutes with a thousand screaming queens. I wouldn't care to repeat the experience in the privacy of my living room. Kenneth Anger commented, incidentally, "**Salome** really shouldn't be seen at 24 frames per second as it was shown here opening night because it makes it too campy."

Two 1974 Canadian features showed us more than we wanted to see of the East End, Montreal's Tenderloin. **Montreal Main**, which Frank Vitale directed, co-produced, starred in, etc., is a muddled drama which eventually gets around to being about a repressed homosexual who forms a "friendship" with an androgynous 12-year-old boy. The late-hippie era look dates it and **The Consequence** was a better story of man-boy love. The only actor of merit is Steve (now Stephen) Lack, who went on to star in **Scanners**.

A comparative triumph is **Once Upon a Time in the East**, which is excellently acted and generally well directed (by Andre Brassard). It was co-written by Michael Tremblay and features the drag

queen Hosanna, the title character of a dreadful play he wrote.

In **The World of Gilbert and George** two British artists display a brilliant compositional sense and an obscure brand of what I take to be humor. They're two steps beyond Monty Python and not immediately accessible, but if they had a tv series I think I could get into them.



OUT OF ORDER filmmaker Robert Epstein, Festival Director Michael Lumpkin, and guest Vito Russo. (Photo: Rink)

I didn't go back for another look at **Nighthawks**, which was tedious in its commercial run three years ago. It had some value as a breakthrough film then, but it has since been eclipsed by **Taxi zum Klo** as a story of the private life of a schoolteacher.

Every film festival has its endurance tests; this one had two. Most of us who attended the Castro showing of **Funeral Parade of Roses** were spared some agony when the projectionist forgot to put on the last 40-minute reel and brought up the house lights instead. We cleared out before the mistake was discov-

ered, though an unlucky few got to see it all. The reaction of some rowdies suggested cult potential; but basically differences in time and culture have rendered this 1968 Japanese attempt at trendiness — which suggests Godard making a Gay update of **Reefer Madness** — unwatchable.

The real marathon was the 2½-hour **Madame X**. An

Frameline's Lesbian and Gay photography exposition was shown at least three times. It evidenced a Hollywood influence in that there were a number of totally nude women but no male genitalia in sight.

Some suggestions for Frameline:

1. Don't try to make each festival bigger than the preceding one. If there are only three days' worth of films that deserve to be shown, have a three-day festival. Too many would-be filmmakers are just masturbating for the camera, literally or otherwise, and the public needn't pay to see that.

2. Concentrate more on packaging Lesbian and Gay films to send to other cities (Gay groups, colleges, etc.) which don't have the resources to find their own.

3. Get organized. I know all about "Gay time," but most shows started anywhere from 20 minutes to an hour late. There also seemed to be a few more "circumstances beyond our control" than there should have been. (But thank God **Times Square**, which has no place in a festival except maybe a Festival of Plastic Punk for Pseudo-Hip Suburbanites was a no-show. If you want a "female bonding" film, get Claudia Weill's **Girl Friends**, which even has a Lesbian character.)

4. It was a long and sometimes painful week for all of us, but keep up the good work.

Steve Warren

## Indies Scent Exposure

The Vito Russo Show . . .

Starring Rita Mae Brown

by Steve Warren

The trouble with many people who are both charming and extroverted is that they tend to find themselves a tad more clever than anyone else does.

One who suffers from this "Dick Cavett Syndrome" is Vito Russo, who emceed the opening night of the recent Lesbian and Gay Film Festival and was generally ubiquitous for the first three days.

It was left to the author of **The Celluloid Closet** to announce that his scheduled interviewee Barry Sandler, the author of **Making Love**, was not going to be there. Russo did so at tacky length ("You'll have to find someone else to throw your tomatoes at"), finally revealing that Sandler had left that morning for Florida to be at the deathbed of "the man who raised him."

(On Wednesday night Russo semi-apologized for his Monday remarks: "I know Barry has a sense of humor and I could have said the same things if he'd been here.")

The evening was salvaged by the addition of Rita Mae Brown to the panel, which also included Ron Peck, co-director of **Nighthawks**. The timid, soft-spoken Peck (No wonder he has trouble raising money to make films!) was no challenge, but the Lesbian author also easily dominated Russo, despite his verbose pontificating and "cuteness."

(Continued on next page)

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## Summer Camp



Ainslie Pryor is hardly Florence Nightingale in *THE DEVIL'S CLEAVAGE*.

CineMatheque will begin a series of independent films and dusted-off classics with **The Devil's Cleavage**, written and directed by George Kuchar and starring Ainslie Pryor, Virginia Giritlian, and Curt McDowell at the California Art Institute, 800 Chestnut, at 8pm on July 9. Kuchar's feature film is a parody of 40's and 50's

melodramas and a confectionate soap opera. A registered nurse is stuck in a marriage that is not appetizing and has affairs with her clients as she makes house calls. They expose her to a buffet of emotional problems until she is forced to get back at them by soiling their homes in any way that she can. The cast of hundreds gets together in the final reel for some just dessert.

Future films will include *Nude Restaurant* by Andy Warhol, *Point of Order* on the Senate/Army hearings in which Senator Joe McCarthy was discredited, shown with *Red Nightmare*. Made by the Department of Defense, this is a fantasy of what would happen in a Communist takeover; and the complete serial of *Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe*. Dates: 332-1514... D. Turner

## Rita Mae Brown

(Continued from previous page)

Brown's controversial remarks won everybody to her side at one time or another and had the audience cheering her even when they disagreed with her. Example: Amidst the hissing which followed her statement that she happens to like Los Angeles Brown snapped, "Don't involve me in your petty geographical disputes!" That brought down the house.

The theme of the discussion was Gay images on film and whether we should expect Hollywood to provide them or supply our own

Brown seconded the latter notion: "Making Love and Personal Best may not be perfect... but they're a hell of a lot better than nothing." She repeatedly came back to the idea that "There's more than one Gay story... The Gay community (must) let its artists fly instead of (insisting they be) cheap propagandists." Expecting to see yourself in every Gay film is the ultimate in narcissism, she said, and "You don't grow up until your mirrors become windows."

Peck, who is still seeking funding for a second feature five years after making *Night Hawks*, said that one producer told him in effect, "You have got your Gay film off

Hollywood closetry works against Gay filmmakers. "Every person who's helped me in that town has been straight," said Ms. Brown.

through the support of independent filmmakers. The extreme ghetto mentality was represented by a woman in the audience who shouted, "Don't stand in line to see E.T.!" (That's fine if you prefer a steady diet of bad propaganda to good entertainment, but most of us want some balance in our lives.)

Russo made two basic points: 1) The goal of independent filmmakers should not be to enter the mainstream; and 2) It's better for a 14-year-old today to see Michael Ontkean kissing Harry Hamlin than the Gay images Hollywood offered when he was a teenager — Don Murray slashing his throat in *Advise and Consent* and Shirley MacLaine hanging herself in *The Children's Hour*.



Author Rita Mae Brown at a recent book signing. Her brand of Southern straightforwardness caused some Northern Discomfort at the Lesbian/Gay Film Fest. (Photo: Rink)

## Speak Low

The unusually contemporary and disarming ventriloquist Ron Lucas arrives in town in play two shows at the Boarding House on Friday, July 16. Lucas surprised the audience at this year's Cabaret Gold Awards with his absurdist and heavily Gay act which daintily oversteps the usual bounds of reality. He conversed with his puppets, for sure, but stunned the audience when his body mutinied and he was addressed not only by his elbow and bare fist, but by his (we blush) penis, which was not bare.

The B.A.R. called Lucas in New York and spoke with him in his dressing room at *Sugar Babies*, the hit show he's been performing in since last November.

"I'll be appearing in *Sugar*

getting it across to millions more people (some of whom will pick up on the earthly parallels) than an independent could hope to reach with a low-budget, didactic documentary.

Any Gay filmmakers with concepts on this scale had better shoot for the mainstream where there's hope of carrying them out; but that doesn't say there's not a place — and a need — for smaller projects.

On the other hand, Hollywood closetry works against Gay would-be filmmakers. "Every person who's helped me in that town has been straight," Brown said. "I know every reason for not coming out and they're all shit."

She had two constructive ideas for people trying to make their own films: Work in videotape which is cheaper and where you can go non-union; and take advantage of the famous "disposable income" in the Gay community by forming a consortium of investors who want to back a good Gay filmmaker.

Brown's books, which I'm now dying to read, have not been filmed. She said a deal may be imminent for her latest, *Southern Discomfort*, and she needs \$125,000 to buy back the rights to *Rubyfruit Jungle* from "two guys in Boston" who have tied it up for eight years.

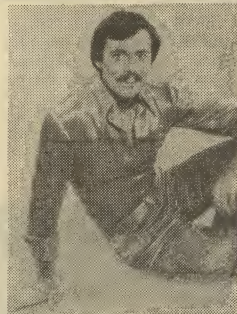
As for Gay-oriented Hollywood projects, a member of the audience announced that Richard Thomas had started shooting the week before on the screen version of Lanford Wilson's *Fifth of July*; and *Variety* reports that James Baldwin has finally sold the rights to his Gay love story *Giovanni's Room*, to be filmed in Europe early next year.

More Brown knows-ing: "Hollywood has no culture and the money to prove it... I don't think that 'Gay culture' is a couple of restaurants on Castro Street."

The bottom line for independent filmmakers is whether other people share or relate to their unique visions. When people respond in large enough numbers Hollywood gets interested because they get visions of their bottom line — profit.

Film festivals offer exposure to a larger audience than might otherwise be possible.

Steve Warren



Ronn Lucas

*Babies* until it closes," said Lucas, and then I'll tour with it. In about a year we'll play San Francisco. Right now I get a two week vacation, and I need it, since I've been subbing for another cast member who's out. That means 25 minutes of comedy per night instead of 12! Even so, my manager assumed I'd want to work during my vacation. So I'm returning to El Paso, my hometown, to play their Summer Festival. This is fun because it's a university crowd

## Spreading Marriage Around

"Marriage is a closed society in which you invent your own mythology and your own language and this is why I tend to be against divorce. You can't snuff out an entire civilization like that, by an act of will," explained inventor of languages and *Clockwork Orange* inventor Anthony Burgess in an interview in the *July Connoisseur* magazine.

"All marriages are miserable," Burgess continued, "but you've got to push on with it, because it's a civilization... a handing down of shorthands, gestures and vocabularies which stand for a whole complexity you have to be very glad to be able to express."

and I can do adult material.

"I especially like San Francisco: I like playing the Boarding House because it's fun—anything goes there!"

"When I perform for a family audience I do the same material with a few changes of punch lines. My penis spoke up on 'The Tonight Show', but subtly. But in San Francisco it got out six lines! I don't normally do 'dirty' material, but it is adult."

"I have five different characters in my act, and I like taking these unreal foam rubber puppets and making them real. I don't do stand up comedy, but I've designed characters who do."

Though not frequently explicit, the Gay content of Lucas' act is unavoidable. With an audience as mixed as the Boarding House can attract, Lucas is liable to offer a looser, wilder version of his act that his family in El Paso will ever see. He's already presented the first conversational cock heard on network television!

Burgess was speaking, of course, from a knowledge of heterosexual marriage. But what of Gay unions, notorious for their frequency and short duration? Does this defeat the development of the personal mythologies and vocabularies that bind? Or could this very turnover contribute to the spread of a generalized Gay shorthand, a codification of behavioral patterns that passes quickly throughout Gay culture much in the manner that oral traditions spread mythologies in earlier times.

The "closed society" of traditional marriage keeps the larger world at bay. A shorter lived Gay marriage spills that union's vocabularies into Gay society for reuse and assimilation. This can be viewed, quite the opposite to the usual dim view of brief Gay liaisons, as healthy.



The "closed society" of heterosexual marriage gets quite a workout from Gays. How about this foursome. They certainly open up the notion of "closed." (Photo: Rink)



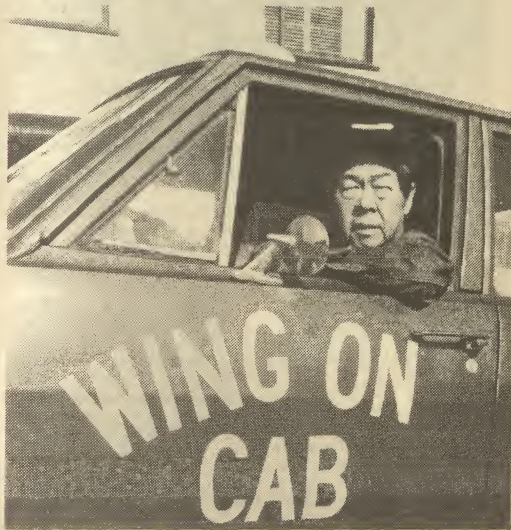
## FILM CLIPS

### Chan is Missing Chinatown Found

If Gays could do what Wayne Wang has done for Chinese Americans in his \$20,000 film *Chan is Missing*, there would be much to celebrate. In a short, clippy 80 minutes Wang has managed with endearing humor and pathos to explain the problems of Chinese Americans assimilating into what is

MICHAEL LASKY  
essentially an alien culture.

There are those immigrants who refuse to leave any of the old country behind and those that are so caught up in the American Way that they refuse any of their own past. (Similarly, there are those Gays who stonewall any assimilation with straight society and other Gays who want to blend in with straights almost to the point to returning to the closet.)



Wood Moy stars in *CHAN IS MISSING*, a comedy that explores a foreign culture with lucid intrigue.

The story Wang has created to carry his lucid introduction to the Chinatown community is appropriately, a comedic takeoff on the somewhat racist Charlie Chan detective adventures. Wood Moy is a cabbie, who with his nephew Marc Hayashi (a mix of Richard Pryor with the stereotyped number-one son), invests their savings in a hack license with Chan. But, as the title says, Chan is missing. The two gumshoe it, taking us on an insightful insider's tour of Chinatown with a mini-course in the neighbor's old world/new world politics.

The characters we meet up with in the search for the elusive Chan are colorful — from the overly assimilated female Asian attorney who is preoccupied with legal implications of cross-cultural linguistic misunderstandings to the Golden Dragon cook who swills milk and chain-sings "Fly Me to the Moon."

There really are no solutions to the "mystery" here, just as there are no handy answers to Gays' acceptance by and of the straight community. What Wang has done so eloquently and entertainingly is give us a lesson in the Asian concept of reciprocity, Yin and Yang. For the Chinese American is of two worlds. As Gays accept the female and male parts of their psyche and are free to express them, so, too, the Chinese reveal their personality and heritage by explaining what, for most Americans, has up to now been called the "inscrutable." (Cannery)

## B.A.R. INTERVIEW

### 'Tron' A Treat David Warner Acts in a Void

by Michael Lasky

Since his successful career-making title role as *Morgan* opposite Vanessa Redgrave in 1966, David Warner has been one of those rare actors in Hollywood — employed!

Not that the 40-year old British thespian has had all plum roles to stay busy. "I've performed in a lion's share of what could safely be called turkeys," says Warner, who was in San Francisco recently promoting his newest film, Walt Disney's *Tron*.

Warner's meek and polite demeanor offscreen deflects his mostly diabolical portrayals. His craggy face and Shakespearian voice can bring out the best in any character, like Jack the Ripper in *Time After Time*, or a cold-blooded Nazi in the TV mini-series *Holocaust*.

In *Tron* (which opens July 9 at the Alhambra) he portrays "Dillinger, a power hungry executive in a worldwide communications company whose alter-ego is an unstoppable computer program."

"Villains are much easier to play — and they are fun. You get all your aggression out," notes Warner.

Since *Tron* is a technical effects film, composed largely of computer designs transferred to celluloid, acting required more mime and stage skill. "We were acting in a void on the set. We had no props, since the computer and technicians were to insert those later. So when you see me throwing something, in actuality when I performed that movement there was nothing in my hand."

"Similarly, I wore white tights with the color being added months later in a laboratory. The set was literally a black room. We had an idea what it would look like afterwards, but it was only intangible ideas we had to work with."

"There was a challenge in this for the actors but, let's face it, no one is going to win Oscars for acting — the picture belongs to those masters offscreen. Acting was completed last summer. That took the least time in the making of *Tron*. Actors were not replaceable, but in the scheme of things not the most important either," offers the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art trained Warner.

*Tron* is budgeted at \$19 million, but that's for the electronic wizardry. "I didn't see any of this expense in my black room, so it's difficult to say how one feels about acting in so expensive a project."



"Working at Disney is a real treat for an actor. The difference was noticeable after my work was completed. Six months later I was in London for the birth of my daughter. The Disney people had the thought and kindness to send a parcel of gifts. That was the Disney difference."

In real life Warner says, "I'm a pacifist." On the set of *Tron* were video games — based on aggression — which "I couldn't get the hang of and didn't care. The other actors would play with them and I'd go off between scenes and watch some quiz show on TV in my dressing room."

Warner is an actor who plays extremes. "After playing a vicious Nazi in *Holocaust* I portrayed William Wordsworth for a TV film directed by Ken Russell. From *Tron* I now go into Steve Martin's newest comedy, *The Man With Two Brains*."

While many movie stars shy away from being called character actors, Warner fully admits to it. "Why not?" he says. "It keeps me employed — the most important thing for an actor."

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## TOMFOOLERY

### Lehrer-ning the Blues

by Steve Warren

Tom Lehrer rose to fame in the early 50's for his tuneful ditties of topical satire. He brilliantly combined the English language with musical styles to make his points with dazzling wit — Jacques Brel without the subtlety.

**Tomfoolery** is a cabaret-style revue of 26 of Lehrer's songs, all but two of which are on his three Reprise albums. I have very mixed feelings about the show, which I can recommend primarily as nostalgia for those who haven't played their Lehrer records since they entered the middle class.

I don't know how the Lehrer oeuvre will strike those hearing it for the first time. His anti-nuke messages are still timely; "Vatican Rag,"

"Masochism Tango" and others are classics; but "The Old Dope Peddler" has become the boy next door. There's harder-hitting satire on television these days.

Those of us who have remained fans (and poor) are not ready to see Lehrer given the "cutesy" treatment. His voice had just the right edge to convey his songs' messages; even his piano was funny. Whether you get the Oakland Symphony to play "Hooked on Lehrer" to a disco beat or Price and Pavarotti to sing his songs in recital at the Opera House or four fine performers with Barry Koron's five-piece band at the Alcazar, there's no way you are going to improve on the original.

Admittedly, one song works better with visual aids: "The Elements," which Robin Nicholas does with a pointer and a Periodic Table. The others, despite the high quality of the singing, orchestrations, and most of Geoff Ferris' staging, pale by comparison with the simplicity of the original recordings.

Shelley Anderson, Paul Haber, and Jack Shearer complete the cast. I have no complaint with them, nor with the look of the show (unless you think of the set as triplet outhouses, after which you can't take it seriously). The diction is excellent, so that hardly a word is missed, something so important yet so often overlooked.

The show flows well because the singer of one song introduces the next with text mostly from Lehrer's records and liner notes. Three of the last four songs are subjected to overkill in a misguided attempt at a slam-bang finale.



Two-stepping Genuflection — the cast of TOMFOOLERY (l. to r. — Robin Nicholas, Jack Shearer, Paul Haber, and Shelley Anderson) doing "The Vatican Rag."

I just kept wishing that Lehrer, who is now 54, ("but he prefers to think of it as 12 Celsius"), would send those people home and sing the songs himself. But he won't, so either listen to the records

or see **Tomfoolery** — it's your choice.

**Tomfoolery**  
Alcazar Theatre  
Thru Aug. 8; 775-7100

## On The Purity Of Art

### Intense Moments with Nazi Ties

by Mark Topkin



The interrogation of Leni Riefenstahl becomes intense as Adrian Brooks threatens Marion Etori in **LENI RIEFENSTAHL**, a dramatic examination of the filmmaker's culpability. (Photo: C. Enn)

In 1934, German film director Leni Riefenstahl made **Triumph of the Will**, a propaganda film that is said to have launched Adolf Hitler's dictatorship. In 1936, Riefenstahl made **Olympia** an account of the 1936 Berlin Olympics, also accused of being Nazi propaganda. Highly regarded as two of the finest documentaries ever created, these films, and their director, have nonetheless continued to be surrounded by controversy—as the recent uproar over the attempt to screen **Olympia** as a benefit for the Gay Olympics attests.

A new play called **Leni Riefenstahl** by former Angel of Light Adrian Brooks is based on the 1945 U.S. Army interrogation of Ms. Riefenstahl. It attempts to shed some light on the rationale behind the making of these films as well as broach the issue of the role of artist in a political arena. What is now showing on the stage of Studio Eremos is a rough draft of what someday might be a taught gripping drama about a fascinating,

complex woman. As it stands, it is overwritten and technically flawed, but certainly not without chunks of excellent material.

The play is set at U.S. Army Headquarters in Barenkeller, Germany and centers on Riefenstahl's interrogation by Captain Langendorf, a handsome, young Ohio Attorney who must decide if Riefenstahl is to stand trial before the war crimes tribunal. Riefenstahl is questioned about her relationship to Hitler (rumors said she was his mistress) and at length about her two films, excerpts of which are screened. The arguments between Riefenstahl and Langendorf often are heated, sometimes violent. There is no question that Riefenstahl is a brilliant, complicated woman, and Act one of the play is often a compelling biography. Act two, however, attempts to philosophize about artistic freedom and responsibility and here the play begins to muddle and disintegrate...

Marion Eaton plays Riefenstahl with authority. She is an accomplished actress, wholly believable in the role. As her interrogator, author Adrian Brooks is less successful, missing enough vocal and emotional versatility to carry him interestingly through such a long, essentially two character play. Still, he manages to meet Eaton head on during the play's intense moments of which there are many.

The production seemed underrehearsed on opening night. Lines were dropped and lighting cue mistakes were blatant enough to draw titters from the audience. Nonetheless, I think **Leni Riefenstahl** has the essence of a powerful evening of theatre, and I hope Brooks, et al continue to develop it.

**Leni Riefenstahl**  
Studio Eremos  
401 Alabama at 17th St.  
Through Aug. 8; 552-3541

## B.A.R. INTERVIEW

### Broadway's Best Arrives

#### Helpless O'Hara Chooses the Roles

by John F. Karr

Although it's immediately obvious that producer Carole J. Shorenstein does not lack one ounce of business acumen, the first impression one gets is that she'd be one helluva broad to party with!

Her hair is curled up in little electrical zaps, her nail polish is a punky purple never before seen on a human nail, and her blouse alternates strips of solid fabric with transparent panels which allow her breasts to play peek-a-boo with this reporter's eyes for the entire interview. (Although avowedly heterosexual, no amount of social etiquette could keep this reporter's eyes from the game.) Oh, yes, this theatrical entrepreneur is obviously, wholeheartedly, a good time girl.

That's also the crux of Ms. Shorenstein's producing platform. She wants her subscribers to have a good time, too, and uses her business acumen to provide us both with that time.

Her efforts to assure such special evenings met with

spectacular defeat last season. She booked two Broadway bound world premieres, each with heavily credentialed names. Really — Diana Rigg as *Colette*, and Bob Fosse directing a musical version of *La Cage aux Folles*! Both suffered "creative difficulties" and canceled. Ms. S. took the rap, and then took it again for the two less than first rate shows she was forced to bring in just to keep the theatres open. The mainstream press was particularly unfair to her, as if she took personal delight in offering less than the best she'd planned.

She lived through the season, though, and has a new one lined up that seems not only a sure-fire hit, but also cancellation-proof.

Arriving in December will be Yul Brynner in the triumphant *King and I* revival which has pleased audiences across the country. *Sophisticated Ladies* follows next March, at which time Michael Smuin will probably be cast in bronze and placed in the City Hall Rotunda. Finishing the season in May 1983 will be Lauren Bacall in her Tony-

winning role in the Kander/Ebb hit *Woman of the Year*.

Ms. Shorenstein, vying for a woman of the year title herself, told the B.A.R. that her company was beginning to mount its own productions, but that took a long time. She said, "This town is dragging its feet, theatrically. It's not chic to go to the theatre here. Dianne Feinstein has never been to our shows!"

She wants theatre in San Francisco to get hot and is endeavoring to bring the best of whatever is available. There are problems, though.

"It's just not happening on Broadway. The New York producers are not fun people," she said, referring to the "elder statesmen" producers who run that town. "They're not new wave sort of people," she explained. "The New York producers were patronizing me as a woman. I felt subservient. I think it's like being Gay," she said. "My father advised me to play the helpless Scarlett O'Hara role," she laughed, "but I decided being a woman was the best role for me."

That role incorporates an understanding of business with the flamboyance of a showgirl. Ms. Shorenstein is

certainly the girl to show this town the best theatre being produced, as the upcoming season attests. Brochures and

subscription forms are available from the Subscription Department, P.O. Box 7341, SF 94120.



No, it's not Carole Shorenstein trying out a punk bald look with Taiwan jacket. It's *The King*, Yul Brynner, arriving in town in December with the legendary *THE KING AND I*, part of "The Best of Broadway" subscription series.



## FROM FIFTH POSITION

### Claps for Taps



KEITH WHITE

Did you ever fantasize replacing Ginger in Fred's arms? A highlight of the Tap Troupe's show did just that, to audience screams of delight and approval. (Photo by Rink)

The San Francisco Tap Troupe has been making appearances in Gay environs since 1981; but their current program, 5...6...7...8, at the Victoria Theatre, is their first concert of their own. These 22 men and women like to tap dance, and their individual proficiency ranges from that of capable amateurs to obvious professionals. This concert was plainly devised to appeal to a Gay audience through a mix of camp and traditional vaudeville know-how.

Surprisingly to me, the campiest numbers were the least effective. The opening number puts the whole company in platinum-blond drag for a version of the "One" finale from *A Chorus Line*. The problem with a drag opening is that we must thereafter tighten our focus in order to take any of the "straight" routines seriously, questioning from the beginning whether these dancers are actually any good or simply campy. Artistic Director Tommy Janes followed with a solo that demonstrated HE can dance a clean, impressive routine. But is quite a bit further on in the program —

after several sidesteps into specialties (a singer, a fire-eater/twirl, the Barbary Coast Cloggers) before we see the troupe's unison impact and know for certain that they work as a company.

Some of the specialty numbers are good, though. "The Hollywood Production Code" from *A Day in Hollywood, A Night in the Ukraine* is a perfect choice for Rusty Frank and Christopher Quann. Five of The Cloggers performed twice during the show — and I never get tired of seeing them. Singer Linda Tillery has a great voice with sort of a throw-away stage presence, but her style isn't really adequately supported by piano accompaniment alone. Tony Alfano is a winsome, energetic Broadway-trouser type; confident, at home on the stage, with his clear, polished tenor. A plaque and easel downstage right announced each new selection with the reappearance of a barechested bombshell of a man who gingerly walked on to change the sign, pausing to briefly acknowledge the adoration of the audience, then disappeared. Like Raquel Welch, he knows that we know that

he's a beauty; and accepts our attention with equanimity. The program didn't announce his name, probably because he would have to change his phone number as a result if they had.

A pleasant surprise was the stage band led by Guy Foster-Hayden (a top notch arranger/director, folks) which accompanied several of the tap routines. The hit of the evening, dance-wise, was the duet of Tommy Janes and Rusty Frank, "Little Rock Getaway," and my personal favorites were "Izzat Ennuf Fo' You?" and "Let Yourself Go," (for the whole troupe, each in his favorite bar-drag) and the finale, "42nd Street."

You can see the Tap Troupe go for it on July 9, 10, and 11 — two evenings and a matinee. Tickets at Headlines and the Victoria Theatre.

#### THE JOFFREY IS BACK

For years, San Francisco has been The Joffrey Ballet's favorite city to play. Mr. Joffrey loves War Memorial Opera House, loves the city — and with the Joffrey's imminent relocation to Los Angeles, they'll probably be visiting on a regular basis. The Joffrey opened Tuesday at the Opera House for a week of repertory followed by four performances of the late John Cranko's full-length *THE TAMING OF THE SHREW*.

The Joffrey is known for innovation on every level: its unusual, eclectic repertory, the development of a new breed of dancer whose style is daring, youthful and "all-American", and a long list of "firsts" in ballet, like rock and multi-media ballets, male nudity, and collaborations with modern dance choreographers. Joffrey fans who haven't seen The Joffrey are in for a real thrill. And for anyone who hasn't gotten into ballet at all and has some curiosity, The Joffrey is the best company I can think of for a first exposure. Included are four performances of one of my all-time favorite ballets, Twyla Tharp's "DEUCE COUPE II," set to Beach Boys' recordings of the Sixties. It's a trip. See it, July 6-17, War Memorial Opera House.

quered by stage directors. The cast proved to be a wonderful ensemble with Katia Ricciarelli, Brenda Booser, William Wildermann and Dalmacio Gonzalez subduing their individual egos to the benefit of the whole. Lucia Valentini-Terrani's Dame Quickly was a bit below the high standards of the rest of the cast but maintained a merry presence in and about Windsor Forest.

The major strength of the evening came from Giulini's conducting. Though occasionally a bit cool, he coaxed a wonderful sense of balance and clarity from the pit, ably supporting the singers. Renato Bruson's Falstaff was an exquisite revelation. Bruson did not go for the bumbling clown often shown but characterized Sir John as an elegant fool so unerringly infatuated with his own prowess as a lover that he could not see how foolish he appeared to everyone else. A Falstaff of pure grace and wit, Bruson ended up the cuddliest of Elizabethan fools.

#### MADNESS TAKES ITS TOLL

While Sir John eventually repents his foolish deeds, Lear succumbs to total madness. When the raging storm

(Continued on next page)

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## TALES OF TESSI TURA

### Old Fools Never Give Up

GEORGE HEYMONT

Long after we should have known better vanity, infatuation and delusions of grandeur continue to lead us down perilous paths. Madness takes it toll as we refuse to face the truth in the mirror. The serenity and wisdom accumulated over years of experience gives way to folly. In a flurry of foolishness our love (or what we think is love) earns us a healthy splat of mud in our face. Sometimes we continue to let our egos catapult us toward newer, more dangerous and more embarrassing showdowns.

Few playwrights got as much mileage from lunacy and romantic idiocy as William Shakespeare. Even today his characters strut haughtily across a stage, entrancing us with their proud conceits, moving us with their humble defeats and forcing us to examine our own dreams of foolish fancy.

#### THE HORNY KNIGHT

No one exemplifies the

blustering fool more nobly than Sir John Falstaff — that ruddy, ridiculous imposter of Casanova. This Spring the Los Angeles Philharmonic (in conjunction with the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden and the Teatro Comunale of Florence) mounted its first staged production of an opera with Sir John fitted out in new duds by Michael Stennet. The production was heartily embraced by Los Angeles opera lovers (who remain starved for a steady operatic presence past annual visits by the New York City Opera). With Carlo Maria Giulini on the podium the curtain rose on an audience aglow with expectations.

By and large, what they got was worth the wait. Hayden Griffin's ingenious sets captured the rustic firmness often missing from productions of Verdi's *Falstaff*. The transformation to the forest scene was fascinating in its concept. The scenes in Ford's garden boasted a solid charm rarely con-

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a film by Marc Huestis

his tragic and moving vision of homosexuality under the Third Reich

BAY AREA REPORTER JULY 8, 1982 PAGE 27



## TESSI TURA (Cont'd)

on the heath extends to the dressing room of an old-time Shakespearean who refuses to give up his acting career despite poor health and a bombing attack by the Nazis. The backstage crew has a crisis of major proportions on its hands.

Ronald Harwood's play *The Dresser* explores the love/hate relationship between a dying actor and his alcoholic dresser against a backdrop of World War II London under siege. It is a drama wherein the power of one person over another continues to ebb and flow. Lear's madness devours Sir while Sir's passions as an actor eventually tame the befuddled king. Norman (Tom Courtenay) rises from the shell of a cowering servant to coax and wheedle his master onto the stage when Sir seems to have lost all mental and physical capabilities. Underlying the struggle to get through the evening is the delicate relationship of an alcoholic trying to take care of a man he adores but to whom he cannot allow himself to confess his love.

More than anything else *The Dresser* offers its lead actors a marvelous vehicle for blustering explosions, roaring showdowns and delicious

moments of underplaying. Paul Rogers (long a stalwart of the Royal Shakespeare Company) was perfectly cast as the old Shakespearean. Tom Courtenay's performance as Norman allows post-Stonewall Gays a fascinating look at how Gay men thought of themselves in less liberated times. Under Michael Elliott's direction, the entire cast offered a vision of madness in the theatre and the devotion which feeds and supports it to the bitter end.

**The Dresser shows how Gays can victimize themselves in their relationships.**

*The Dresser* is one of the plays due for production by American Conservatory Theatre — one which should be seen by those interested in the depiction of Gays onstage. Those who refuse to believe that Gays can victimize themselves in their relationships had best take a long, hard look at Norman and Sir. The madness which underlies their relationship is as destructive a force as the bond between co-alcoholics — and far less endearing than Sir John Falstaff's attempts to go a-wooing.

George Heymont

## BOOK RACK

Book Reviews by Frank J. Howell

### Gay Fathers Speak Out



**Gay Fathers: Some of Their Stories, Experience and Advice**  
By Gay Fathers of Toronto  
Box 187 - Station F  
Toronto, Ontario M4Y-2L5

With all the controversy over Lesbian mothers and their worthy court battles to keep their children, the Gay father frequently gets lost in the shuffle. They are not rare animals by any means.

Support groups are springing up and literature is now forthcoming. The present effort is composed chiefly of personal stories related by the men themselves. These experiences involve coming out and the problems of custody. One section spells out what a Gay father can expect when he encounters the judge and under what conditions he is most likely to be awarded custody.

Advice is provided on how to establish a Gay fathers group of your own.

The appendix presents a chilling reprint of material by the League Against Homosexuals, a far Right Canadian group.

A detailed list of books and articles that deal with the custody rights of Gay parents concludes this helpful booklet of seventy pages.

# GAY OLYMPIC GAMES

## UPDATE '82 OLYMPICS

### Coming Events

TOM WADDELL, M.D.

CIRCUS VARGAS, the popular circus group will perform a special GAY NIGHT on Saturday, July 17 at Crissy Field (that's the old Army air strip near the Golden Gate Bridge). The special shows are being sponsored by GREAT OUTDOOR ADVENTURES and the times are 6 and 8:30 pm. The wonderful thing about this special evening is that it is a gay night which always creates a special aura for the performers and the audience; but on top of that, Aryae Levy of GOA has earmarked portions of the proceeds to the Kaposi Sarcoma Foundation and to the Gay Olympic Games, both very deserving institutions. Remember the other Gay nights Aryae has sponsored (Marriott's Great America and Ringling Bros.)? They were particularly well attended and I think you'll be impressed with this one as well. Aryae has always been

supportive of community activities and we should help him to continue to do so. Tickets are \$8 general admission and \$12 box seats. You can get them at a variety of outlets, including two of our sponsors, The Gramophone and Headlines.

**The Celestial Lords Await You...** at the official entertainment event of the Gay Olympic Games! **Celestial Lords: A Megasensory Spectacular** will hit the heights fantastic the evenings of August 27, 28, and 29 at San Francisco's spectacular Galleria Design Center. Each evening will be an extraordinary fusion of party, dancing, and theatrical performance, featuring world champion body builders, contemporary ballet, and state-of-the-art special effects. The Celestial Lords include: Tom Platz, Mr. Universe; Shelley Gruwell, Miss America; and "Pillow", Miss

California.

Produced by Entertainment Advocates, Inc. and Rhaz Ziesler, **Celestial Lords** will present the saga of five mythic gods and their journey through the universe. The evening promises to bring science fiction alive with special effects by Laser Image (the creators of *Laserium*), lighting designed by Aubrey Wilson (the Dean of the Design Technology School at California Institute of the Arts), costumes by W. J. Evans of the Ice Capades, and sets by James Bayless, designer for Disneyworld and the television show "Dynasty"

And as befits an evening of Olympian celebration, there will be plenty of dancing to the music of DJ Tim Rivers. A no-host bar will be available throughout the evening.

Tickets for **Celestial Lords** are limited, so order now. Preferred VIP seating is \$50 a ticket, which includes a seat on the upper terrace of the Galleria with an unobstructed view of the evening's proceedings. Preferred VIP seating is only available Friday and Saturday nights (August 27 and 28). VIP tickets will not be made available to the general public. General admission tickets are \$30 and are available for each of the three evening's performances. To order your tickets please use the coupon below.

On Saturday, July 31, from 8-10 pm, at Park Bowl (Haight and Stanyan), there will be a **Celebrity Bowling Competition**. Tickets are \$4 in advance from Headlines or members of San Francisco's Olympic Bowling Team (\$5 at door). Celebrities include Sister Missionary Position, Senator Milton Marks, Sister Boom Boom, Rosa Perez, Jo Daly, Carole Migden, Aryae Levy, Carol Ruth Silver, Harry Britt, and myself (whoopie, I'm a celebrity).

Women's Dance: Satur-



"Wanna buy my cookies, cutie?" The Olympic Flag Corps throws a festive bake sale, and netted over \$500! (Photo: Rink)

day, July 10, Country and Western at OLLIE'S (Telegraph & 41st in Oakland) with WANTED, featuring Peggy Lang. Tickets at the door, \$5-\$10 sliding scale. There will be a Patsy Cline Tribute, Elvis Presley, and old favorite C&W hits.

Dance: Saturday, July 17, at Olive Oil's (Pier 50, China Basin), 8-12 pm, featuring Page Odell as DJ. There will be dancing and music galore! \$3-\$5 sliding scale tickets at the door.

A specially heartfelt salute to **Peg Clark and Lita Byrd**, who have contributed back to the Olympic Games a generous \$1,000 portion of the prize they won at the reverse raffle.

Last week I misreported that Joe Urban had donated \$200 back from his Reverse Raffle winnings, but it was actually **Bob Paulsen**, of the Deputy Sheriff's Office. Thanks to new sponsor **Richard D. Rogles** for the only new sponsor this week. Also thank you **Adrienne Torf and Terry Peterson** for their exquisite concert performance at Albion Hall on Thurs. July 1. Finally, thank you **Lyle Webster of Castro Gardens** for the donation of this typewriter . . . what a blessing.

### Gay Olympics Volunteers

The Gay Olympics Statistics Committee is looking for volunteers to act as scorekeepers for the various events during the Gay Olympics, August 28 to September 5. You can pick the events you are interested in covering.

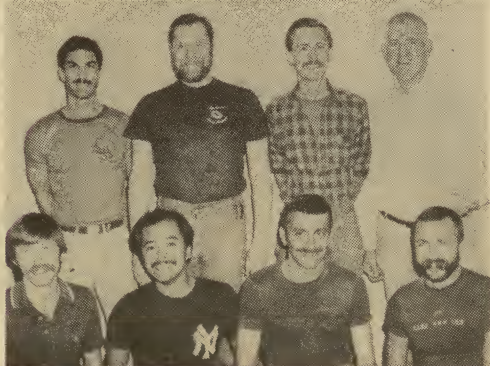
No special skills are required and scorekeepers will get to see the events from a close vantage point. Orientation and training will be provided.

For more information call **Ralph Stephan** at 431-4192 or the Gay Olympics office at 861-8282.

### Olympic Swimming

The Gay Olympic Games Swimming Team still has openings for men and women in the 25- & under and the 36-45 year categories. There are also openings in the women's 26-35 year team.

You still have time to get involved! Practices are Sundays from 9-11 am at Martin Luther King Pool, Third & Carroll Streets. Call Jill at 552-9446 or the Olympic Office at 861-8282 for info.



The winning bowling team which will be San Francisco's representatives in the Gay Olympics: (front row, l. to r.) Lowell Hills, Ray Padua, Bob Rolison, Adrian Stevenson, plv: Ralph Bremner (rear, 2nd from left). In the rear are Dennis Dauth, Ralph Bremner, Rob Mallin, and Lew Watson, individual winners. (Photo: Rink)



# SPORTS SECTION

## CORNER POCKET

### What's A Pool League?

GENE MILLER

Fun! The primary purpose of the San Francisco Pool Association's Tuesday night league is to have a lot of fun through friendly competition. The fact that all matches are played in Gay bars is the best evidence to support that claim. But — you can have plenty of "fun" just playing a few games with friends, right? Maybe it's more accurate, then, to say that league play increases the fun, and the best evidence to support that claim is . . .

#### THE TROCADERO PARTY

The big pool party gets underway at 8pm, July 13, and it's free to all SFPA league members (non-league members, by the way, may obtain advance tickets at many Gay bars and merchants); it includes a buffet, membership to Trocadero Transfer with every admission, the Spring Season Awards presentation, entertainment, and . . . over a hundred door prizes.

#### "BUT I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR LEAGUE"

The league has players at every level of proficiency and dedication. There are some who practice diligently and play eight days a week, but there are even more who play, as a rule, only on Tuesday with their team. Many league members play primarily because it's a good way to be with that Special Someone on Tuesday nights. Those players are as important to the league as any other members, and as welcome. They

are obviously enjoying themselves, and every now and then they beat some "top shooter," which makes it more fun than they expected!

The league also provides a wonderful opportunity for learning, as any member would immediately confirm: When you play team competition alongside more experienced players, improvement is just about unavoidable, if you keep your eyes open.

So how can you get on a team? Every season, most teams are feeling around for one or two new players; people who will begin by playing only occasionally as substitutes. That's truer than ever this season, because the league is expanding to 48 teams. So if you've been wanting to meet more people, or have more fun, or enjoy organized competition, or just do something different, or all those plus reasons of your own — get in contact with the league (J-O-E P-O-O-L, or 563-7665 if numbers are easier) or better yet, attend the party next Tuesday at Trocadero Transfer.

#### RAINBOW, RAINBOW

By twin scores of 9-4, Don Henderson's Rainbow "Health Department" downed the Stallion Raiders for the SFPA City Championship. Most of the Stallion's attack was Gordon Bell and Colin Bradley — they won seven games during the two matches. The rest of the Raiders won a grand total of one game. For the Rainbow, Son-

ny Abramo was 6/2; Don Henderson, 5/1; Carl Arguello, 4/2; and Alex Abustan was 3/3 and the only player to sink the eight on the break. They'll try for SF's fifth consecutive West Coast Challenge victory July 16-18 at Febe's (Friday) and the Arena (Sat & Sun). The San Diego team is sponsored by the Nickelodeon, and includes last season's #1 Individual at the WCC, Jim Hennessey, and is captained by someone named Charlene (we'll ask her what her last name is, first thing the 16th). She also won their top individual award (defeating Hennessey in the last round), which makes an interesting piece of news: It's the first time a woman will compete in the singles bracket, and she isn't alone: Kitty Stephens of Peg's Place is qualified and she also finished in first place, and should they come up against each other, which is quite likely in a 12-player field, it'll be a match to watch.

From Los Angeles, it's Don Carrier again. This time he's the captain of the Lodge team which includes David Popma, Jim Taube, Rick Jackson, and Jim Cyana. Their individuals are Frank Bustamante (champ in July '81), David Popma, Steve (?), and Dan O'Neil.

#### AROUND THE LEAGUE

It's "back home" at the Rainbow Cattle Company . . . they moved their table back to the main room and went from a 50 cents to a 25 cents coin slot. Not only that, they've added a new open tournament (double elimination) every Saturday at noon. Have you seen those snazzy new "blackboards" yet? They probably should be called "whiteboards" . . . the Arena is using them.

Francisco (now a member of IGBO through the TGWNBL), Scottsdale (Arizona), and Washington, D.C. These new delegates received special attention from Mal in providing information about the Gay Olympic Games to be held in San Francisco.

On Friday night, May 28, at the Roundup Saloon, the tournament was officially instituted with the signing-in of the participants.

The actual bowling competition, which encompassed some 56 of the 72 lanes available at Bronco Lanes, started early Saturday morning, lasted through early evening, recommenced Sunday morning and ended that afternoon.

It was a handicap tournament = 80% of 200 (add the averages of a 4-member team, subtract the total from 800, then figure 80% of the difference for the handicap).

The winners were determined on a point system, with the 4-member team garnering the most points in all events receiving \$1,200. Slightly over \$8,000 was awarded in all categories.

As a point of pride, San Francisco did have one bowler participating in the IGBO tournament in Dallas. It seems that Eddie Carmick happened to be vacationing in Dallas over the tournament dates and managed to register in time to participate.

Eddie bowled on a team with three fellows from

## TGWEDNESDAYNBL

### Luck, Skill, and Mischief

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

When Lady Luck leaves, she exits like a missile shot from a powerful crossbow. At least that is how she reacted the other night when I desperately needed a little of her patronage. Right when she and I had a mutually advantageous relationship developing, she caught sight of her arch-enemy, skill, and promptly abandoned the premises — leaving me alone and intimidated by the overwhelming presence of a competent bowler.

Luckily, having heard of LL's capricious nature, before leaving home for Park Bowl, I had dabbed a few drops of my favorite scent behind each ear, with just a splash or two on my neck and forearms, just in case.

This insipid, yet still provocative, fragrance has a mystical power that totally permeates the immediate atmosphere, undermining even the most avid bowler's train of concentration, causing him to wander aimlessly around the alley with a bewildered expression on his face, mumbling things like . . . where's that odor coming from?

Naturally, knowing from whence it comes, my game is not affected in the least; I bowl as poorly as ever. Yet, there is a certain complacent satisfaction in knowing that I wasn't beaten as badly as I might have been. (Blame it on LL! If she wasn't so wishy-washy, I wouldn't have to adopt such dastardly tactics.)

Now for some credible accounts covering the achievements within the TBWNBL. As of the 30th, Trax is in 1st place with a W27½-L17½ record, with Grady's nipping at its heels with a W27-L18 standing, and FEP menacing

both of them with its W26½-L18½ tally. Talk about close!

There were only eight bowlers who counted among the 200+ bowlers on the 30th. They were:

Jack Mitchell (49ets)	256
Tim Hagerman (OTM)	216
Larry Kramer (PB)	214
Ralph Bremner (FEP)	213
Bill Shandra (Grady's)	209
Win Matthews (Specs)	204
Ken Wun (F&E)	201
T. Randall (Trax)	200

Tim Hagerman has the most total-pins in the entire TGWNBL. His 7,536 total averages out to 179.4 per game (based on 42 games).

Average! What a perfect lead-in for the most improved average category. These special people have each increased their average by 10 or more pins since the start of this season.

Darrell Thomas, from 164 to 177 (a total of 13 pins); Ron Williams, from 125 to 138 (13); Richard Keikner, from 131 to 143 (12); Jack Magro, from 119 to 131 (12); Jerry De Young, from 151 to 162 (11); David Bieda, from 148 to 159 (11); Glen Mautz, from 142 to 153 (11); Garland Murphy, from 131 to 142 (11); Tom Wills, from 121 to 132 (11); Maggie Cilley, from 116 to 127 (11); Thom Moore, from 143 to 153 (10); and Jason Wearnar, from 134 to 144 (10).

Impressive improvements, to say the least.

In conclusion, a hearty congratulation to Doug Quick of the Pilsner III team for picking up that 4-10 split on the night of the 30th. You Pilsner boys are just too, too much!

## G.S.L. UPDATE

### Gays vs. Police

TOM VINDEED

After a lengthy absence, the Gay Softball League has challenged the San Francisco Police Dept. to a benefit softball game August 22nd at a field to be determined. All proceeds will benefit each team's choice of charities. In the case of the G.S.L., all monies will go toward financing the Gay Softball World Series, which opens August 28 with San Francisco facing Chicago.

Dallas. He and his partner in the doubles competition qualified for a cash prize. We are certainly proud and happy for you, Eddie.

Sunday evening, after the bowling competition was completed, 500 people attended a grand Texas-style banquet at the Dunfee Hotel. The winners were announced and the prizes awarded, while the Oaklawn Symphonic Band filled the immense banquet hall with the sensuous sounds of "The Stripper." The guests danced in place around their respective tables, and some Dallas D.Q. took the music seriously.

Complete details are still not finalized, but will be very shortly. This promises to be another of those "only in San Francisco" days.

All games this week are scheduled for Lang Field (Gough & Turk) with On The Mark/Stables vs. The Pendulum as the featured game of the week. Come out and enjoy the best in Gay Softball.

Although the 1982 IGBO tournament in Dallas has ended (and was an unqualified success), and although 1983 is already called for (and possibly 1984), there still remain many, many more Memorial Day weekends ahead.

Nevertheless, it is only the cities that have the foresight to plan ahead and the gumption to reach out which will enjoy the future privilege of hosting this fantastic organization. San Francisco has both of these qualities, and much more, so when is our turn?

## Int'l Gay Bowlers Convene

### S.F. Bowler Takes Cash Prize

by Jerry R. De Young

After deplaning at the Dallas airport on the evening of May 27, Mal Garcia, the spokesman for the Gay Olympic Games in San Francisco, was met by two amiable chairmen of the 1982 International Gay Bowling Organization (affectionately referred to as IGBO by its membership). He was then driven to the Townehouse Motel (where about 100 IGBO bowlers were also ensconced) across town from the Bronco Lanes, the bowling establishment in which the IGBO tournament was to be held. He was permitted to freshen up a bit before being escorted to a local tavern where a welcoming party was in progress to honor the bowling delegates gathered there from various cities around the country.

On Friday afternoon, following a night's rest and a morning of getting acquainted, Mal attended a six-hour meeting of IGBO officers and delegates. They elected new officers, chose the date on which the tournament would be held each year (Memorial Day weekend), the next locale (Chicago), and, of course, by-laws ratification.

The by-laws of the IGBO are such that each member city has one vote that is broken into fractions, depending upon how many leagues are IGBO members from that city

(i.e. hypothetically, S.F. has seven member-leagues, each league has 1/7th of the S.F. vote).

However, when voting on or creating or changing by-laws, each member-league has an entire vote.

At this second and largest annual IGBO tournament, the infinite number of meticulous preparations necessary to competently host 442 bowlers from 27 cities were handled masterfully by the Oaklawn Bowling Association's Tournament Director, Steve Tracy, and the numerous committees demanded by such a gigantic event.

Before the IGBO tournament began its membership boasted such great cities as Atlanta, Chicago, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Orleans, New York, San Diego, Seattle, and Toronto (all of whom were aware of the Gay Olympic Games coming up in S.F. because Mal possessed an IGBO membership list months earlier, and had mailed them the appropriate information packets).

Nonetheless, twelve other cities were represented in the tournament in Dallas for the first time. These were Baltimore, Columbus (Ohio), Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Fort Worth, Honolulu, Louisville, Phoenix, San Antonio, San



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### PORN CORNER

#### A Snit Over Rage

KARR

"The function of entertainment is to confirm us in our prejudices," wrote Wilfrid Mellers in his much admired study **Music In A New Found Land**. Presumably then, sex films should appeal to our sexuality. Yet after seeing the long awaited West Coast premieres now at two of our theatres I am prejudiced more **against** sex than towards it. Two days of screening this supposedly "state of the art" erotica has left me depressed. Sylvia Plath had nothing on me. If this was reel life Thelma Ritter would appear just about now with a stirring pep talk to lift me out of my dulldrums and I'd make it through. I'm going to spill it all in print, though, since Thelma's left us for good. Maybe she couldn't take the state of porno either.

A new directorial name in porno is Christopher Rage. This young man wrote several dozen porno novels before meeting Jack Deveau and working for him. With Deveau, Rage learned the business of porno. In the premiere issue of "Studflix", Rage says he learned casting, writing, promoting, advertising and partying with Deveau. He ultimately made his own film, **Solojerk**, starring Richard Locke, Scott Taylor, Scorpio and other top names in jack-off sessions. This was followed by **Superstars**, adding George Payne, Casey

(Continued on next page)



When an irresistible hunk such as you straddles the chest of a yearning mutt such as me... a moment from SLEAZE.

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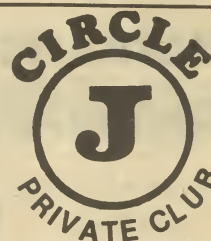
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## PORN CORNER

(Continued from previous page)

Donovan and Lee Marlin to the other cast members. Neither one has played our theatres, but Rage's most recent work, *Sleaze*, is now at the Screening Room. Despite the plethora of stars in his casts, *Sleaze* makes me apprehensive to see the earlier films. It seems Rage's apprenticeship didn't include any technical tutoring.

*Sleaze*, quite simply, is a rip off of *Closed Set*. But not only did the Gage Brothers get there first, they got there better.

Trained as a writer, Rage has jettisoned any storyline in *Sleaze*. The set is supposed to be a bath house, but looks more like the junk in someone's garage was pushed to one side so that filming could be done in whatever space was cleared. The film is overexposed and the models appear pale. I don't think Rage has even thought of the concept of editing the footage. Given the careful attention to mood, model, environment and cinematography which the Gage Brothers have set as their standard, I don't see how Rage thought he could compete with this sort of non-stop action movie.

It's not that he needs a plot. With the number of good-looking men he's got, he doesn't need one. Some technical competence would help however, as well as a sense of pace and editing that allowed us to watch the good stuff. Doesn't sound like much to ask, I know, but it seems like more than most "filmmakers" in the porn industry can supply.

The environment of *Sleaze* isn't sleazy. It's merely broken down and cold. Only near the very end is there any feeling of a planned pace as the actors get excited, and only near the end are we allowed to identify with an actor by watching him for any length of time and experiencing his reactions. It just doesn't do any good to be a passive spectator at the porn theatre, and *Sleaze*'s combination of faults keeps us from feeling the on-screen action ourselves.

A favorite Rage ploy is to cut between two different yet simultaneous sex scenes. This ought to increase the tension, but Rage handles it so ineptly that both scenes are undermined. The first is a duo between Scorpio and a trim brunette in a tiered-platform room with hot-tub. Also in this room, illogically, is a solitary piece of gym equipment on which a faceless black man (wearing hiking boots and socks) jacks off as he watches Scorpio and friend. This duo with voyeur is intercut with another duo, a muscular black with a chunky white boy. This one's a stunner, gratefully reappears throughout the movie, and may be Jed Black. I'm not sure of his name; I call him BH & H, for "black hair and hung." For he is hung, with a long cock that swells in thickness directly upshaft of an ample head. They mutually JO while Scorpio and partner rim and fuck. Scorpio accelerates into his usual piston fuck, they voyeur shoots over them and Scorpio brings himself off over his partner's cock and balls. Meanwhile the other duo becomes a trio (the third, I believe being filmmaker Rage, whose desire to be in the action may be

responsible for it being inadequately filmed). The three suck & j.o. in various combinations, and cum from jacking off.

The next tandem scene juxtaposes Casey Donovan and an orgy. Donovan is sitting on a toilet in the middle of nowhere. He's joined by BH&H for some oral sex. Casey looks fine, although his bald spot is revealed when he gives BH&H head. His balls are tight and smooth, though, and the planes of his groin flat, Bauhaus. Moreover, his ass accommodates the large cock of BH&H just fine. After some change-partner fucking, they jack-off to orgasm, Casey using his own cum as a lubricant for BH&H.

This scene has been poorly intercut with a four way orgy in another room. This began promisingly enough with the forceful stripping of a redhead and some intriguingly rough foreplay. A good deal of the action is JO. Shortly the entire cast joins in, Scorpio and his earlier partner, Casey Donovan and—thank god—BH&H, who is caught in some exhibitionists glimpses that are the scene's highlights, his fab cock fully revealed for the first time. Scorpio throws his rapid fucking thrusts into Donovan while BH&H shows his expertise in the film's best fuck—from which the camera maddeningly keeps gliding away.

The action cuts randomly from fuck to fuck to a nice Donovan orgasm squirting in a fellow's face, to a few more random fucks. It's all a bit haphazard. The heat does pick up. People drool saliva onto each other's faces and dribble mouthfuls of beer across their chins. BH&H works out, preening, jacks off in a friends face and smiles at the camera. And then it's the end, in the middle of no particular place.

This synopsis reads hotter than the actual visuals, which are plagued by problems enumerated in the earlier portion of the review. The synopsis is meant to detail the type of sexual activity, not necessarily the quality of it. There's no kink in *Sleaze*, except for two fellows who wear leather gloves with the fingers clipped off. There's no FF, dildos, WS, or rubber duckies. There is some interesting electronic percussion on the soundtrack, followed by the sounds of an underwater radio which nearly ruin Donovan's tryst with BH&H.

Despite an excellent cast (I'm going to demand total ownership of BH&H), the movie is undone by the usual porno bugaboo—technical in-expertise and destructive editing. We are forced to fish around for the good moments and when found they disappear like a plate of ribs in front of Aretha. It's a shame, for there was obviously some hot sex going on when they filmed *Sleaze*. Little of it has made it to our theatre screens, though, which puts me in a rage.

Co-feature at the Screening Room is *The Kid From L.A.* starring that lascivious imp, Duff Paxton. If not a brilliant movie, at least its sex scenes are arousing and decently filmed.

*Sleaze* continues at the Screening Room through July 15.

Next week—an in-depth look at the *Heaven's Gate* of the porno world, *Centurions of Rome*. ■

Karr



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Golden Gate Performing Arts is pleased to announce the selection of their new music director, Ernest L. Veniegas.

Veniegas was one of six finalists chosen from a field of twenty-eight applicants for the position; each finalist was scheduled for an audition in front of the chorus.

Born and raised in Hawaii, Mr. Veniegas is a graduate of St. Louis High School and the University of Hawaii. His conducting career has included two-year positions as director of the 150-voice Honolulu Symphony Chorus and the 100-voice Hawaii Opera Theatre Chorus.

Mr. Veniegas is now auditioning prospective singers for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, who will be judged on the basis of vocal technique, aural abilities, sight singing, the performance of a short piece of their own choosing, and a personal interview. Applicants may schedule an appointment by contacting the office of Golden Gate Performing Arts, 864-0326.

Pictured above welcoming the new Director are (l. to r.) Robin Kay, artistic director of the S.F. Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus; Phil Pearce, president of G.G.P.A.; Veniegas; Linda Rohde, business manager of the mixed chorus and new General Manager Johnny Martin. (Photo: T. Plewik)

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